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THE
SAXON AND ENGLISH LANGUAGES
RECIPROCALLY ILLUSTRATIVE OF EACH OTHER;

THE
IMPRACTICABILITY OF ACQUIRING
AN ACCURATE KNOWLEDGE OF SAXON LITERATURE,
THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF LATIN PHRASEOLOGY,
EXEMPLIFIED IN THE ERRORS OF
HICKES, WILKINS, GIBSON, AND OTHER SCHOLARS,

AND A
NEW MODE SUGGESTED OF RADICALLY STUDYING
THE SAXON AND ENGLISH LANGUAGES,
By SAMUEL HENSHALL, M. A.

FELLOW OF BRAZEN-NOSE COLLEGE, OXFORD, AND AUTHOR OF
SPECIMENS AND PARTS OF THE HISTORY OF SOUTH-BRITAIN.

READING I TEACH.
ræðende ic teace.

BEDA.

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AND PARKER, OXFORD; LUNN, CAMBRIDGE; AND CLARKE, MANCHESTER.

MDCXCXVIII

MVSEVM
BRITAN
NICVM

TO
THOMAS ASTLE, ESQ. F.R.S. AND S.A.

TRUSTEE OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM, SOC ANTIQ. CASSELL. SOD, &c.

RESPECTED SIR,



THE Favours received, and the Information derived, by my free Admission to your invaluable Library, demand my earliest Acknowledgements, not only on the Principle of Justice, but from my grateful Consciousness of the high Obligation conferred upon me. No sooner had my SPECIMENS of the HISTORY OF SOUTH-BRITAIN appeared, than you became its avowed Patron, invited me to your House, permitted me the unlimited Perusal of your ANCIENT DOCUMENTS, SAXON MANUSCRIPTS, and ANSTIS'S NOBLE COLLECTION of EXTRACTS and AUTHORITIES, and generously allowed me to transcribe whatever could illustrate the antient State of the British Realm. Not resting here, you have entrusted valuable Volumes to my Custody, referred me to the best Sources of Information, and introduced me to Gentlemen and Scholars, the Keepers of our national Records, to which I have had easy Access. When the next Number of my History appears, the Advantages derived from such Opportunities

tunities will be manifested to the Public ; and the numerous References to the Manuscripts in your Possession, will best evince my Opinion of their Worth, and Sense of your Kindness. In the mean Time, though you are fully convinced that the Books of DOMESDAY have been my more immediate Study, permit me to present you with the First-fruits of my Proficiency in Saxon Learning, a Language essentially necessary for understanding many Parts of this AUTOGRAPH, till I can with Prudence pursue my grand Undertaking.

I am, respected Sir,

Your truly obliged

and sincere humble Servant,

LONDON, AUG. 10, 1798.

SAMUEL HENSHALL.

THE
SAXON AND ENGLISH
LANGUAGES, &c.



THE Study of the Anglo-Saxon Language has certainly engaged the attention of able Scholars and learned Divines. The ancient Records of this realm have been collected with laudable assiduity, many of them have been printed with a Version, and more liberally translated. To assert that no correct ideas can be collected from the laborious exertions of a Hickes, a Gibson, or a Wilkins; to affirm that their Latin interpretations are of little authority, unintelligible, and delusory; argues certainly a daring Challenger, or a Champion conscious of the merits of his cause, and therefore not easily intimidated.

The present investigator relies little on his own knowledge, but is confident in the errors of his opponents; he is better acquainted with antient Latin Records than Saxon Documents, but having
B been

been compelled, in the course of his investigations, to consult the Thesaurus of Hickes, the Leges Saxonicae of Wilkins, &c. and finding it impossible to form any certain inference from their Latin jargon, he was necessitated to examine the Original, in its vernacular idiom. Of the result of this investigation let others judge; but before condemnation is passed, let the evidence be candidly weighed by the judgment of a discerning jury. For this purpose we shall submit the Original in Saxon Characters, with the Version and Interpretation of the Editor's on one page; the Original, in Roman Characters, with the literal verbatim Rendering, in italics, on the other, that a just ^a verdict of their merits may be returned by an honest and impartial juryman.

To trifle away time is not the object of our researches. We shall therefore select a most curious Record for observation, the very first that the learned Hickes has inserted in his *Dissertatio Epistolaris*, and which he considers a valuable ^b document, conveying important information. This reports the Saxon process in an Assize, or the manner of holding a grand Court of Judicature for a County. It has deservedly occupied his peculiar attention and engaged his particular comment. We cannot therefore be accused of acting uncandidly in our selection, since we begin with one of our ablest scholars, take the first occurring Record in this part of his publication, and which he has certainly endeavoured to illustrate with precision. Far is it from our intention likewise to detract from the merit of such men, they have laboured for the great advantage of posterity; but our immediate object is to prove, that the mode of study adopted by them was insufficient to produce a correct knowledge of the Idioms of the Anglo-saxonic Language,

^a Vere-dictum.

^b Inter hæc autem merito *primum locum vindicat* Causæ sive Litis cujusdam in Comitibus, &c. *Dissert. Epist. p. 2.*

which

which has little similarity with a Latin Construction, but is so really and truly our old English Tongue, that Lord Lyttleton so denominates a Saxon Proclamation in the reign of Henry the third, and Warton's Early Extracts in his History of English Poetry, are as pure Saxon, as can be produced at that æra. In the course of this investigation, Specimens will be given, to illustrate, and support, this assertion; for as Scholars, at this period, were generally Priests accustomed to the Romish Ritual, we must necessarily expect a mixture of Latin Phraseology in all their Compositions.

A SAXON MANUSCRIPT, transcribed from the HARLEIAN
COLLECTION, with the LATIN VERSION of HICKES.—
Thesaur. Vol. 2. Dissert. Epist. p. 2.

VERSIO HICKESIANA.

Her spretelað on ðissum
geppute þ an rcip-gemot ræt
æt Ægelnoðer-rtane be Cnuter
dæge Linger: Ðær ræt-on
Æðelrtan b. Raniz Ealdorman.
7 Eopine þær ealdormanner. 7
Leoppine Fulrizer runu. 7
Ðuncil Hrita. 7 Toriz Pruda
com þær on þær Linger æpende.
7 þær pær Bryning rcip-gepera.
7 Ægelpearð æt Frone. 7 Leop-
pine æt Frone. 7 Godric æt
Stoce 7 ealle þa þegnar on He-
reford-rcipe: Ða com þær pa-
pende to þam gemote Eopine
Enneapner runu. 7 spæc þær
on hys agene modopærter runon
dæle Lander. þ per Weolintun.
7 Gyrdersleah. Ða acrode þe

In hoc scripto ostenditur, Co-
mitatus conventum quendam ha-
bitum fuisse Ægelnothes-rtane
Rege Canuto regnante. In quo
quidem conventu confidebant
Æthelstanus Episcopus & Rani-
gus Comes & Edwinus Comitis
& Leofwinus Wulfigei filius. Eð
etiam convenerunt ad negotia
regis gerenda Thurcilus cui Al-
bus^a, & Tofigus cui comptus,
cognomen erat, cum Bryningo
vice-comite, Ægelweardo Fro-
mensi, Goodrico Stocensi, & om-
nibus pagi Herefordensis liberis
hominibus. Tum ad conventum
profectus Edwinus Ennawnes
filius, agebat contra matrem de
quorundam prædiorum jure, qui-
bus nomina erant Weolintun, &
Cradesleah. Controversiâ autem

^a The original is wight—a wise man—a read man—a Counsellor, for all Thanes
were not Witena. There is not the least authority for the insertion of Cognomen.
See Dissertation on Ranks and Customs.

The SAME MANUSCRIPT; the SAXON in ROMAN, the
ENGLISH in ITALIC CHARACTERS.

Here ^a settleth on this Writ, that one Shiremotc sat at
Her swutelath on thissum Gewrite, that an Scir-gemot sæt æt
Ælnoth's Stone, being Cnutes Day King. There satten Æthel-
Ægelnothes-stane, be Cnutes Dæge Cinges. Thær sæton Æthel-
stan Bishop, and Raney Elderman, and Edwin this Elderman's,
stan B. and Ranig Ealdorman, and Edwine thæs Ealdormannes
and Leofwin Wulfig's Son, and Thurchill Wight, and ^b Tofig
and Leofwine Wulfiges Sunu, and Thurchil Hwita and Tofig
Proud came there on this King's Errand, and there was Bruning
Pruda com thær on thæs Cinges Ærende; and thær wæs Bruning
Shire-reeve and Egelward at Frome, and Leofwin at Frome,
Scir-gereva and Ægelweard æt Frome, and Leofwine æt Frome,
and Godric at Stoke, and all the Thanes in Herefordshire.
and Godric æt Stoce, and ealle tha Thegnas on Hereford-scire.
Then came there fore-hand to that. Mote Edwin Enneawnes
Tha com thær fa-rende to tham ^c Gemote Edwine Enneawnes
Son, and spake there on his own Mother, after some Deal of
Sunu, and spæc thær on his agene Modor, æfter sumon Dæle
Lands, that was Wellington and Curdsley. Then asked the
Landes, thæt was Weolnitun and Curdesleah. Tha ascode the

^a Hence our modern Settlement, and it is settled, determined.

^b Hicke's Version "Tofig cui comptus cognomen erat," destroys the idea intended to be conveyed by the Original, of the attendance of the King's Justiciary; and how he could omit such a circumstance, and so render the passage, is astonishing.

^c The Saxon *ge* prefixed, is almost constantly to be left out in modern English.—Mote was a County-meeting or Assize—hence moot-point—for the decision of such Court, dedisse ei Motam de Hereford cum toto Castello, Rym. Fæd. vol. 1. p. 8.

birceop. hpa rceolde and-rpenian
 for hīr modor: Ða and-rpeo-
 node Ðuncil Hrita. 7 ræde ꝥ
 he rceolde. 7if he þa talu cuðe.
 þa he þa talu nane cuðe: Ða
 rceopode man þreo þegnar of
 þam gemote þær ðær heo þær.
 7 þæt pær æt Fæliglæh. þæt
 þær æt Fæliglæh. þæt pær
 Leoppine æt Frome. 7 Ægelrig
 þe Reada. 7 Ðinrig Stægðman.
 7 þa þa heo to hīre comon þa
 acroðon heo hpylce talu heo
 hæpde ymbe þa land þe hīre
 runu æfter rpæc: Ða ræde heo
 ꝥ heo nan land hæpde þe him
 aht to gebýrde. 7 gebealh heo
 rpiðe eoplice pið hīre runu. 7
 gecleopade ða Leoplæde hīre
 magan to hīre Ðunciller pīf.
 7 beforan heom to hīre þur
 cpæð. her rit Leoplæde min
 mæge þe ic geann ægðer ge
 miner lander. ge miner goldes
 ge pæglær. ge neafer. ge ealler
 þe ic ah æfter minon dæge. 7
 heo ryððan to þam þegnon

ab illo motâ, rogavit Episcopus,
 quisnam responsurus esset pro
 matre Edwini, cui statim Thur-
 cilus Albus se pro illa responsu-
 rum ait, si causam, unde actio
^b descenderet, sciret, cujus nullam
 esse sciebat. Tum conspecti erant
 in conventu tres liberi homines,
 nempe Leofwinus Fromensis,
 Ægelfigus Rufus, & Thinfigus
 Stægthmannus, qui erant è vico
 Fæligleahensi, ubi mater Edwini
 habitabat. Hi à curia mandati
 erant, ut ad eam profecti roga-
 rent, de jure quod haberet ad
 terras, de quibus filius ejus con-
 troversiam movisset. His autem
 illa respondens dixit se nullas ter-
 ras habere, quas ille ^c aliquo juris
 prættextu vindicare posset, & dein
 heroica quadam indignatione in
 suum filium vehementer excan-
 descens, & Leofledam propin-
 quam suam Thurcili uxorem ad-
 vocans, sic coram illis prope se
 sedentem eam allocuta est. Ecce
 Leofledam propinquam meam,
 cui Ego cum prædia mea, tum
 aurum, tum etiam vestes & in-

^b If any man can form an idea, of the original sense intended to be conveyed, from such a version, or any precise idea at all, I am much deceived.

^c How simple, clear and definite the word "birth" when compared with this.

dumenta,

Bishop, who should^d ante-swear for his Mother. Then ante-Biceop, hwa sceolde and-swerian for his Modor. Then and-sweareth Thurcil Wight and said that he should, if he that Tale sweorote Thurcill Hwita and sæde that he sceolde, gif he tha Talu^d couth, tho he that Tale none couth. Then sheweth man three cuðe, tha he tha Talu nane cuðe. Tha sceowode man thres Thanas of that Mote there^e there^f hoo was, and that was at Thegnas of tham gemote thær thær heo wæs, and thæt wæs æt Faleylæ. That was Leofwin at Frome and Alfig the Red, Fæliglæh. Thæt wæs Leofwine æt Frome and Ægelfig the Readas, and Thinfig Stedman, and they then hie to their^f Common; then and Thinfig Stægdman, and tha tha heo to hire Comon, tha asked they what Tale hoo had about that Land, that her acfothon hoo hwulce Tale heo hæfde ymbe tha Land the hire Son after spoke. Then said hoo that hoo no Land had, that Sunu æfter spæc. Tha sæde heo that heo nan Land hæfde, the he ought to birth; and bawled hoo with Earl's Wrath her him aht to gebyrede, and gebealh heo^g swithe eorlice^h w..th hire Son & yclept there Leoflæde her Kinswoman to her Thurkill's Sunu & gecleopade tha Leoflæde hire Magan to hire Thurcilles Wife, and before them to her thus quoth. Here sit Leofled my Wif, and beforan heom to hire thus cwæth. Her sit Leoflæde min

^d Ante-swear—the Latin ante against.

^d Couth—knew.

^e Modern where.

^f Hoo—she—Hoo-Justice—Female Justice. Lancashire Dialect, by Tim Bobbin, Esq; a Mr. Collier, of Rochdale; a Work of great original humour, and of infinite advantage to the Student of Saxon Literature, relative to Spelling.

^f Common Court of their District.

^g This word our Saxon Lexicographers have always rendered strenue, vehementer, magnoperè, but it certainly is synonymous and of equal power with our modern *with*, as a radical uncompounded word, as *Mihtum swith*—*Might with*, or with *Might*. *Swith-feormian* Lyes crudescere with Ferment, &c.

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cræþ. doð þegnlice. 7 þel abeo-
 doð mine æpende to þam gemote
 beforan eallum þam godan man-
 num. 7 cýðað heom hpæm ic
 mineſ landeſ zeunnen habbe. 7
 ealre mine æhte. 7 minan
 aſenan ſunu næfre nan þing. 7
 biðdað heom beon þýſſe to ge-
 witneſſe: And heo þa ſpæ dydon.
 riðon to þam gemote. 7 cýðdon
 eallon þam godan mannum hpæt
 heo on heom zeled hæfde. Ða
 aſtoð Ðurcil hwiſta up on þam
 gemote. 7 bæd ealle þa þægnar
 ſýllan hiſ wiſe þa landeſ clæne.
 þe hiſe mæge hiſe ze-uðe. 7 heo
 ſpæ dydon. 7 Ðurcill ſað ða to

dumenta, tum denique omnia,
 quæ habeo, me mortuâ, fruenda
 concedo. His dictis, dein liberos
 homines à curia miſſos ſic adſatur.
 Eja agite, ut liberos homines
 decet, & diligenter perferte man-
 data mea ad Curiam, fideliter
 declarantes coram omnibus pro-
 bis hominibus, cui terras meas
 omnes, & uniuerſa bona eâ in-
 tentione dedi, ut filium meum
 exhæredem facerem, & rogate
 eos, ut huic donationi teſtes eſſe
 velint. Illi protinus, quod peti-
 erat, præſtiterunt. Equis enim
 conſenſis, ad conventum re-
 meant, & coram probis homini-
 bus uniuerſis, quod ſe præſentibus
 Enneawne ſe defendens protu-
 lerat, declarauerunt. Quibus
 quidem declaratis, ſurgens, in
^d foro Thurcilus Albus ab omni-
 bus liberis hominibus poſtulabat,
 ut uxori ſuæ terras a lite im-
 munes adjudicarent, quas illi pro-
 pinqua ejus donaverat. Hi vero
 ita fecerunt, prout rogauerat
 Thurcilus, qui ſtatim conſenti-

^d By ſuch verſions all hiſtorical accuracy has been deſtroyed; where can be found
 a term correſponding with “coram probis hominibus uniuerſis, et ab omnibus liberis
 Hominibus in Foro—the Original only ſpecifies the Thanes aſſembled in the County
 Court, our preſent Grand Jury.

*Kinswoman that I've given after yea my Lands, yea my
 Mæge the ic geann ægther ge mines Landes, ge mines
 Golds, yea Pells, yea Ruffs, yea all that I have after my
 Goldes, ge Pæglæs ge Reafes ge ealles the ic ah æfter minon
 Days, & hoo fiththen to them Thaness quoth. Do Thanelike,
 Dæge & heo fyththan to tham Thegnon cweth. Doth Thegnlice,
 and well bid mine Errand to that Mote before all
 & wel abeodath mine ærende to tham Gemote beforan eallum
 them good men, and couth them whom I my Lands
 tham godam mannūm & ⁱ cythath heom hwæm ic mines Landes
 given have, and all me ^k ought and mine own ¹ Son
 geunnen habbe, & ealre minre æhte, & minan agenān Sunu
 never none Thing, and biddeth them be on this to Witness, and
 næfre nan Thing & biddath heom beon thisse to gewitnesse &
 they then so didden, ridden to their Mote, and coudden all
 heo tha fwæ dydon, ridon to tham Gemote & cyddon eallon
 them good men what hoo on them laid had. Then stood
 tham godan mannūm hwæt heo on heom geled hæfde. Tha astood
 Turchill Wight up in that Mote and bid all the Thaness
 Thurcil hwita up on tham Gemote & bæd ealle tha Thægnas
 shall his Wife the Lands clean, that her Kinswoman her giveth,
 syllan his Wife tha Landes clæne, the hire Mæge hire geuthe
 and they so didden, and Turkhill rid then to St. Æthelbert's
 & heo fwa dydon, & Turcill rad tha to sce Æthelberhtes*

ⁱ Couth opposite to uncouth—I am surprized with an uncouth fear—Shakespear—
 Vid. Skinner.—Uncouth in arms yclad—Spenser.—Unknown, consequently couth
 make them know.

^k Ought—modern, to me owed.

¹ Alfred's grandfather had entailed many estates on the Spear-half, and had excited
 probably no little animosity and jealousy among the Spindle-half; hence such maternal
 affection.—See hereafter.

ATRAHO

D

Minster

ſce Æþelberhtes mýnre be
ealles þes folces leafe. 7 ge-
pítnesse. 7 let settan on ane
Gýrter boc.

entibus universis, qui conventui
interessent, cum omnium testi-
moniis, equo consensu, ad Sancti
Æthelberhti monasterium tendit,
ad quod profectus, quod actum
erat in quendam Evangeliorum
codicem referri curavit.

*Minster by all those Folks Leave and Witness and^m leet setten
Mynstre be alles thæs Følcs Leafe & gewitnesse & let settan
in One Christ's Book.
on ane Cristes Boc.*

We entertain little doubt that English Scholars will imbibe more correct ideas of the Original from our homely Version, than from the Latin of Hickes; and the Historian and Lawyer have better notions of Courts of Judicature at this æra. To comment at large on this Record is not our immediate object, for we reserve it for discussion in that Dissertation of our History, where we shall consider Customs as the Common Law of the Realm. The next Specimen we shall exhibit is a Charter of the Conqueror's, published likewise in the Thesaurus, with an antient Latin Version.

^m Let—permitted.

CHARTER

CHARTA WILHELMI REGIS CONQUESTORIS



DE SACA ET SOCNA.

Willm King gnet mine byrcoper
 7 mina eopler. 7 ealle mine
 þegnar fñencirce 7 engliſce on
 þan ſcýpan þer ſcúr Auguſtínur
 heſð land inne ſneondlice. 7 ic
 cýðe eop ꝥ ic habbe ge-unnan
 Gode and ſce Auguſtine. 7 þam
 hýpeðe þe þer to hýpeð. ꝥ heo
 bien heope ſace peopðe 7 heopa
 ſocna. 7 gniðbrýcer. 7 ham-
 ſocna. 7 ſpottaller 7 inſangener
 þeoper. 7 ſlemene-ſepmðe ofer
 heopa agne men binnan burgh
 and butan. toller and teamer.
 on ſtþande 7 on ſtþeame. 7 ofer
 ſpa ſele þegna ſpa ic heom to
 ge-leten habbe. 7 ic nelle þæt
 anig man anig þing þeop on-teo
 butan heom. 7 hepe picneper þe
 hpo hit beo-tecen pillan. ſop
 þam þe ic hebbe ſop-gifen gode.
 7 ſce Auguſtine þas gepuhte
 minne ſaple to alýrednerre.
 ealſpa Eaðþopð king min meþ
 æp epðe. 7 ic nelle geþapian þæt

Ego Wilhelmus rex ſaluto
 omnes meos epos & comites, &
 omnes meos optimates franci-
 genas & anglicos, in illis comi-
 tatibus ubi Sanctus Auguſtinus
 terram habet. Notum vobis eſſe
 volo me annuiſſe Sancto Auguſ-
 tino ſuæque congregationi, ut
 habeant ſuum Sake & Sockne,
 & pacis fracturam & pugnam in
 domo factam, & viæ aſſaltus &
 fures in terra ſua captos, & la-
 tronum ſuſceptionem ſuper ſuos
 proprios homines intra civitatem,
 & extra * ... in litoribus & in ma-
 rinis fluctibus, quod Anglice di-
 citur teames & ſuper omnes allo-
 diarios ſuos. Et ego nolo con-
 ſentire, ut aliquis de aliqua re ſe
 intromittat exceptis ſemetipſis,
 & ſuis præpoſitis, quibus ipſi com-
 miſerunt, vel committere volu-
 erunt. Concedo enim iſtas recti-
 tudines Deo & S. Auguſtino,
 meæ animæ ad redemptionem,
 ſicut

CHARTER OF WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR.

*William King greet my Bishops and mine Earls and all
 Willm King gret mine Biscopes & mina Eorles and ealle
 my Thanes french and english in them shire where St. Au-
 gustine thegnas frencise & engliose on than scyran wes Stus Au-
 gustine haveth land in ^afriendlike and I ^bcouth you, that I
 gustinus hefd land inne freondlice and ic cythe eow, that ic
 have given God and St. Augustine and the Herd that
 hæbbe ge-unnan Gode & Sce Augustine and tham hirede the
 thereto heireth that they be their Sac worthy and their Soc
 therto hyneth that hæo bien heore Sace weorthe and heora Socne
 and ^cagreed-break and homesteal and foresteal and within-fanging-
 and Grithbryces and hamfocna and forstalles and infangenes
 thief and fleemen ^dfrims over their own men within Borough
 theofes and flemene-fermthe ofer heora agene men binnan burgh
 and without.
 and butan.*

^c *Tolles and theam*
 Tolles and teames
On Strand and in Stream
 On Strande and on Streame

*and over such fealty thanes such I them to let have and I
 and ofer swa fele thegna swa ic heom to ge-leten habbe and Ic*

^a Synonymous perhaps with modern Franchise.

^b Contrary to uncouth, make you know.

^c *Agreed-break*—what was settled or established by the grand Council of the Nobility—*Grith*, Agreement. Chaucer.

^d Lincolnshire Dialect—*Frims*—folk—from *ppembe*—a stranger—hence—from.

^e Doubtless the Poetry of the age.

ænig man þis abrecan be minan
frendrice. God eop gehelð.
amen.

sicut Edwardus meus consanguineus, & sui antecessores reges fecerunt. Et ego nolo consentire, ut aliquis istud frangat, qui de mea amicitia curet. Valete.

^f *nill that any man any thing thereunto* ^g *but them and their*
 nelle that anig man anig thing theor on-teo butan heom, and here
Vicars the who it take will, for that that I have
 Vicneres the hwo hit beo-tecen willan, for tham the Ic habbe
fore-given Gode and St. Augustine, thus to right my soul to
 for-gifen Gode and Sce Augustine, thas gerihte minne sawle to
loofedness all so Edward King my Kinsman eer feed and I nill
 alyfedness ealwa Eadword King min Meg ær efde and ic nelle
suffer that any man this break by mine friendship. God
 gethasian thæt ænig man this abreca be minan frendscipe. God
you hold. Amen.
 eow geheld. Amen.

Since the learning of Hickes has hitherto never been questioned, since ^h Dr. White Kennet states his “Instructions of Grammar to be methodical and accurate,” since Bishop Nicholson reports his “Book as discovering an accuracy in this language beyond the attainments of any that had gone before him in this study;” since Gibson, Smith, and Thwaites have extolled his ability in England; Grævius, Wormius, and the *Leipsc Acta Eruditorum* on the Continent, we judge it expedient to give other Specimens of his inaccurate Versions, and unfaithful Translations.

^f Nill, not will. Vid. Chaucer passim.

^g See Tooke's *Diversions of Purley*.

^h Vide Testimonia Auctorum apud Hickes *Thesaur.* Vol. 1st. *Gibson*—circa singulas pæne voces hæsi, veritus ne iis subesset idiotismi nescio quid, mihi adhuc non quidem plane incogniti, sed tamen haud satis bene intellecti. Verum cum re prope desperatâ totum Consilium tantum non abjecissem, omne hoc incommodum opportunè sustulit *Clarus Georgius Hiccius*—*Smith*—Subsidia & quasi Manu-ductiones, quæ viam ad abditissima Penetralia (*Linguae Anglo-Saxonicae addiscendæ*) apertam, planam ac facilem muniunt ex Docti Somneri *Dictionary* & Docti Hicci Grammaticâ suppetantur.—*Thwaites*—*Hicci* literarum hujus omnis Instauratori maximo—*Grævius*—*Vir pereruditus*—*Wormius*—*Legi iterumque perlegi—Acta eruditorum* Vir hic doctissimus.—

EXCERPTA E PSEUDO EVANGELIO NICODEMI.

Hick. Gram. Anglo-Sax. p. 72.

Ða cwæð seo helle to Satane.
 La ðu ealdor ealre forpýlle-
 onýrre. 7 la ðu ondruma ealra
 ypela. 7 la ðu fæder ealra plý-
 mena. 7 la ðu þe ealdor pære
 ealle deaþer. 7 la ondruma
 ealre modignýrre. for hwiz ge-
 dýrptlæhter ðu ðe þ ðu þ
 gebanc on þ Iudeisce folc aen-
 der þ huz ðýrne Hælend ahen-
 zon. 7 ðu him nænne gýlt on ne
 oncneope. 7 ðu nu þurh þ trýp
 7 þurh ða mode hæfret ealle þýne
 blýrre forpýlled.

Tum inquit Morta [Hecate]
 ad Satanam : ô tu princeps per-
 ditionis ! ô auctor omnium ma-
 lorum ! ô profugorum [aposta-
 tarum] omnium pater ! ô qui
 fuisti princeps omnis interitûs ! ô
 omnis ambitionis auctor ! cur
 præsumebas indere in mentes
 Judæorum, ut Jesum, quem scie-
 bas esse innocentem, crucifige-
 rent, quando quidem per ^a lig-
 neam illam crucem tuam, omnem
 delectationem perdidisti. Evang.
 Nicod. p. 17. §. xxix.

^a Ligneam,—a *wooden* Translation indeed.

EXTRACTS FROM THE FALSE GOSPEL OF NICODEMUS.

*Then quoth she Hell to Satan Lo thou ealder Earle of fore-
 Tha cwæth seo Helle to Satane. La thu ealdor earle for-
 spoiledness, and lo thou ^a earth-former of all evil, and lo thou
 spyllednyffe, and la thu ordfruma ealra yfela and la thu
 father of all fleemen, and lo thou thee ^b the that, thou that ^c Think
 fæder ealra flymena and la thu the the that, thu that gethanc
 in that Judaishe folk hast sent, that they this Healing one high-hang,
 on that Judeisce folc asendest, that hig thyfne Hælend ahengon,
 that thou him none guilt on never once knew, and thou now
 that thou him nænne gylt on ne oncneowe, and thou nu
 thorough that true one, and thorough that ^d Rood havest all thine
 thurh that tryw, and thurh that Rode hæfst ealle thyne
 Blifs fore-spoiled.
 blyffe forespylled.*

That an accurate Investigator can never be satisfied with the Versions of Hickes, we presume is clearly established. The Author selected for our farther animadversions is David Wilkins, the laborious Editor of the Concilia and Leges Saxonicae. We shall select a Section from the Laws of the Confessor, which we defy any Scholar or Lawyer to comprehend or interpret, from his pretended Translation. We wish not hence to infer that our Conjectures or Rendering are uniformly right, for Saxon Records want the penetration and judgment, that Bentley displayed in Greek and Roman Literature, to purify their Text; we pretend to prove, however, that our predecessors have been grossly wrong, and that many of their errors have proceeded from their pursuing the study of Anglo-Saxon Learning through the medium of the Latin Language.

^a Earth, the Source of every thing, the general Mother, and Cause of Life.

^b This. ^c Think—synonymous with modern thought. ^d Synonymous with Cross.

LEGES EDWEARDI REGIS.

Wilkins Versio. p. 49. §. 2.

Be ðone þe oþrum rihter pyrnþ.

De eo qui alteri jus denegat.

Eac pe crædon hper se þynþe
pære ðe oþrum rihter pyrnðe.
aþon oþþe on boclande. oþþe on
folclande. hponne he him rihte
porhte beforan þæm zerefan :
Eiþ he þonne nan rihte næfðe.
ne on boclande ne on folclande.
þ se pære þe rihter a pyrnðe
rcyldig xxx rcill. pið ðone
Lýning : b Æt oþrum cýrpe eac
rpa : æt ðriððan cýrpe. Lýn-
inger oþerhyrnýrre. þ iſ cxx
rcill. buton he ær zerpice.

Item diximus, quod dignum
esset alteri jus denegare, five in
possessione propria, five in fundo
populari, quando ei jus datur
coram Præfecto. Si tunc nullum
jus habeat nec in possessione pro-
pria, neque in fundo populari,
fit ille qui jus denegat reus xxx
solidorum apud Regem ; altera
vice eodem modo ; tertia vice
contumaciæ erga Regem, hoc
est, cxx solidorum, nisi se prius
excuset.

LEGES

LAWS OF EDWARD.

Wilkins. p. 49. §. 2.

Of them that other rights warneth.
Be thone the othrum rihtes wyrnth.

Eke we woud, whofo he worthy were, that other Rights
Eac we cwædon hwæs fe wyrthe wære the othrum rihtes
warneth, either oth' on Bookland, oth' on Folkland, whence
wyrnde, athor oththe on Bockland, oththe on Folcland, hwonne
he him right works before those Reeves. If he then none
he him rihte worhte beforan thæm Gerevan. Gif he thonne nan
right not have, nay on Bookland, nay on Folkland, that he were
rihte næfde, ne on Boclande, ne on Folclande, that fe wære
the Rights worthy ^a finneth 30 Shill with the King: At
the Rihtes ^b wyrd scyldig xxx scill with thone Cuning: Æt
other ^c Court eke so; at third Court, Kings overhighness,
othrum Curre eac fwa; æt thriddan Curre, Cuninges oferhyrness,
that is 120 shillings.
that is cxx Scil.

^a In the various readings of the Laws of this æra we find scynning and scyldig, in different MS.

^b Lambard thus, pȳp̃b, certainly more intelligible than pȳp̃ñbe.

^c Courts were held every fortnight at this æra

LEGES ÆLFREDI.

Wilkins Versio. p. 43. §. 37.

Be Boclande.

Se mon seþe boclande hæbbe.
 ⁊ him his magar læfden þonne
 retton þe þ he hit ne morre
 ryllan of his mægbyrge gifðær
 bið gepnit. oþþe gepitnyrre. þ
 hit þæra manna forbod pære
 ðe hit on fruman gertundon.
 ⁊ ðara ðe hit him realdon. þ he
 sra ne mote. ⁊ þ ðonne on
 Lyncinge. ge on Birceoper ge-
 pitnyrre geprece beforan his
 magum.

Si quis terram hæreditariam
 habeat, quam Parentes ejus ipsi
 reliquerunt, tunc statuimus, ut
 eam non vendat a cognatis hære-
 dibus suis, si adsit scriptura vel
 testis, quod illi viro prohibitum
 sit, qui eam ab initio acquisivit,
 & illi qui eam vendidit, ut ita
 facere nequeat, & hoc tunc in
 Regis vel in Episcopi testimonio
 recitetur coram cognatis suis.

PÆNITEN-

LAWS OF ALFRED.

Wilkins. p. 43. §. 37.

Of Bookland.

*If man be that ^a Bookland have, and him his ^b Elders left,
Se mon fe the Bockland hæbbe, and him his yldran læfden,
then set we, that he it not might sell off his ^c Kinsbrother,
thonne fetton we, that he hit ne moſte ſyllan of his Mægburge,
if there beeth Writ, oth' Witneſs that it there man
gif thær biſh gewrit, oththe gewitneſſe that hit thæra manna
forbad were, that it in firming reſtrained (they) and there that
forbod were, the hit on fruman geſtrindon and thara the
it him ^d ſealed, that he ſo not might and that then in Kings
hit him ſealdon, that he ſwa ne mote and that thonne on Cuninges
yea in Biſhops Witneſs be read before his Kinsfolk.
ge on Biſceopes gewitnyſſe ^e geredde beforan his Magum.*

^a Bookland—Entered in one Chriſt's Book.

^b ylþnan Textus Roffenſis Wylkins magar.

^c The Spear-half, not the Spindle-half. See this illuſtrated when we examine Alfred's Will.

^d Sealed in a Charter or Book.

^e Very probably geredde for gerecce.

PÆNITENTIALE DOMINI ECGBERTI ARCH. EBOR.

Concilia Magnæ Brit. a Davide Wilkins, s. t. p. p. 138.

Līf hpylc cpyrten man hīr
 agen beapn. oþþe hīr nehrtan
 mæg riþ anigum purþe rylle.
 næbbe he nanne gemanan mid
 cpyrtenum mannum ær he hine
 alýred hæbbe of ðam þeopdome.
 gif he þonne hine begýtan ne
 mæge. dæle rpa mycel feoh for
 hýnd rpa he ær mid him nam. ⁊
 alýre oþerne of ðeopdome. ⁊
 rpeoge ðone. ⁊ færte reoron
 pucan on hlafe ⁊ on pætere. ⁊
 gif he ðær gertreonef næbbe ꝥ
 he alýran mæge. færte ðonne
 eahta ⁊ tpentig pucena on hlafe
 ⁊ on pætere.

Si quis christianus infantem
 suum vel proximi sui pro aliquo
 pretio vendiderit, non habeat con-
 sortium aliquod cum christianis,
 antequam eum e servitute rede-
 merit; si autem ipsum obtinere
 nequeat, tradat tantum pecuniae,
 quantum prius per ipsum acce-
 perat, et redimat eum e servi-
 tute, ac liberet illum, et jejunet
 septem septimanas in pane et
 aqua: et si facultates non habeat,
 ut eum redimere possit, jejunet
 octo et viginti hebdomadas in
 pane et aqua.

LEGES

PENETENTIAL OF ECBERT ARCHBISHOP OF YORK.

David Wilkins. p. 138.

*If ilk Christian man his own Barn, oth' his nighest
 Gif hwulc Cristen man his agen bearn, oththe his nehstan
 Kinsmans, with any ^aWorth sell, not have he no Communion
 mæg, with anigum wurthe fylle, næbbe he nanne gemanan
 with Christian men, e'er he them loosed have of their
 mid Cristenum mannum, ær he hine alyfed hæbbe of tham
 thraldom, if he then them get not may, deal so mickle
 theowdome, gif he thonne hine begytan ne mæge, dæle swa mycel
 fee for them, so he e'er with them ^bnimmed, and leose others of
 feoh for hyne, swa he ær mid him nam, and alyse otherne of
 thraldom, and free thence, and fast seven Weeks on Loaf
 theowdome, and freoge thone, and fæste seofon Wucan on hlaf
 and on Water, and if he this strength not have, that he loose
 and on Wætere, and gif he thæs gestreones næbbe, that he alysan
 may, fast then eight and twenty weeks on Loaf and on
 mæge, fæste thonne eahta and twentig wucena on hlaf and on
 Water.*

Waetere.

^a Synonymous with price.^b Nimmed his purse.—Shakespear—Merry Wives of Windfor.

LEGES INÆ.

Wilkins. Concil. p. 59. §. 6.

Be geſeohtum.



De pugnīs. Cap. 6.

Līf pha geſeohte on cýnninġer
 hure. ꝛý he ꝛýldiġ ealler hī
 ýrſer. ꝛ ꝛý on cýnninġer dome.
 hſæþer he līfe aġe ðe naġe :
 Līf pha on mýnrter geſeohte.
 hund tſeltiġ ſcillingeſ. ġebete.
 Līf pha on ealdormanneſ hure
 geſeohte. oþþe on oþreſ ġebun-
 ġeneſ ƿitan. ſixtiġ ſcillingeſ
 ġebete he. ꝛ oþer ſýxtiġ ſcil-
 linġeſ ġeſtýlle to ƿite : Līf he
 ðonne on ġaſolġýlðan hure oþþe
 on ġebureſ geſeohte. ðſuttīġ
 ſcillingeſ to ƿite ġeſýlle. ꝛ dæm
 ġebure ſýx ſcillingeſ : And ðeah
 hit ꝛý on middan ſelða ġeſohten.
 hund tſelſtiġ ſcillingeſ to ƿite
 ꝛý aġýſen : Līf ðonne on ġebe-
 oncipe hī ġeciden. ꝛ oþer heopa
 mid ġeþýlðe hit ſonþere, ġeſýlle
 ſe oþer ðſuttīġ ſcillingeſ to
 ƿite.

Si quis in regis domo pugnet,
 perdat omnem ſuam haeredita-
 tem, et in regis ſit arbitrio, poſſi-
 deat vitam an non poſſideat. Si
 quis in templo pugnet, centum
 viginti ſolidis mulctetur. Si quis
 in ſenatoris domo pugnet, vel in
 alterius illuſtris ſapientis, ſexa-
 ginta ſolidis mulctetur, et alios
 ſexaginta ſolidos ſolvat poenae
 loco. Si autem in tributarii domo
 vel coloni pugnet, triginta ſolidos
 poenae loco ſolvat, et colono ſex
 ſolidos. Et licet in medio campi
 pugnatum ſit, centum viginti
 ſolidi poenae loco ſolvantur. Si
 autem in convivio rixati ſint, et
 unus horum patienter id ſuſtineat,
 ſolvat alius triginta ſolidos poenae
 loco.

Be

LAWS OF INA.

Of Fights.

If ^awha fight in King's House, be he slighted all his
Gif hwa gefeohte on Cunniges Huse, fy he scyldig ealles his
^b Reeves, and be in King's Doom, whether he ^cLife have the
yrfes and fy on Cynninges Dome, hwæther he life age the
no. If wha in Minster fight, hundred twenty shillings
nage. Gif hwa on Mynster gefeohte hund tweltig scillinges
give boot. If wha in Alderman's House fight, oth' in
gebete. Gif hwa on Ealdormannes Huse gefeohte oththe on
other ^d Thanes, a Wight, sixty Shillings give boot he, and other
othres Gethungenes, Witan fixtig Scillinges gebete he, and other
sixty Shillings shall to Wight. If he then in Gable-geld
fyxtig Scillinges gefylle to ^e Wite. Gif he thonne on gafoldgyldan
House, oth' in Burgeses, fight, thirty Shillings to Wight
Huse, oththe on Gebures, gefeohte, thrittig Scillinges to Wite
shall, and that Borough six Shillings. And tho' it be in
gefylle, and thaem Gebure fyx Scillinges. And theah hit fy on
mid-field fought, hundred twenty Shillings to Wight be
midden feldda gefohten, hund twelftig Scillinges to Wite fy
given. If then in Borough-ship they chiden, and either of them
agyfen. Gif thonne in Gebeorscipe hi geciden and other heora
with with-hold it forbear, shall the other thirty Shillings to
mid gethylde hit forbere, gefylle se other thrittig Scillinges to
Wight.

Wite.

- ^a Wha wants me.—Edinburgh Language.
- ^b Reeves, synonymous with Rolls—reef the Sails—all his chartered Lands.
- ^c Whether he be a Lord or not, hlaƿonb—Life—Source.
- ^d Some Thanes not Wights.
- ^e The Lord, who has the Court of Suit and Service, Fines and Forfeitures, or Sac and Soc.

H

§. 7. If

Be ðam ðe heora Ʒepitnyrre be-
Ʒonan biŷceope ƷeleoƷaþ.

De iis quorum testes coram epif-
copo mentiti sunt. Cap. 13.

VII. Eŷ hpa beƷonan biŷceope
hiŷ Ʒepitnyrre. 7 hiŷ peð aleoƷe.
Ʒebete mid hund tpeftiƷ ŷcil-
linger.

VII. Si alicujus testis vel ^avas
coram episcopo mentiatur, com-
penŷet centum viginti ŷolidis.

CHRONICON SAXONICUM.

Anno 1137. Gibŷon. p. 239.

I ne canne. 7 ne mai tellen
alle þe punder. ne alle þe piner
þ hi ðiden ppece men on hiŷ
land. 7 þ laŷtede þa xix. pinte
pile ŷtephne paŷ king. 7 æure
it paŷ uueŷŷe 7 uueŷŷe. þi læi-
den Ʒæilder on þe tuner æuþeu
pile. 7 clepeden it tenŷeþie. þa
þe ppece men ne haðden nan
moþe to Ʒiuen. þa þæueden hi
and bþendon alle þe tuner. þ
pel þu mihter paþen all adæiŷ
paþe ŷculdeŷ þu neuþe þinden
man in tune ŷittende. ne land
tiled. Ða paŷ corn ðæpe. 7
plec. 7 cæpe. 7 buteþe. Ʒon nan
ne pæs o þe land. Ʒ pece men
ŷtuþuen of hungæp. ŷume þeden

Non autem poŷŷibile eŷt mihi
numerare omnia vulnera, om-
neŷque calamitates, quibus afflixer-
unt miŷeros incolas hujus terræ :
hoc vero duravit xix. annos,
quibus Stephanus fuit Rex, &
quotidie deteriore erant condi-
tione. Impoŷuerunt tributa op-
pidis valde frequenter, & illud
vocarunt cumque miŷeri
homines non haberent quicquam
amplius quod darent, vaŷtarunt
& incenderunt omnia oppida ;
adeo ut poŷŷes inter diei conficere,
nec tamen reperire quemvis ho-
minem in oppido viventem, aut
terram cultam. Hinc fuit fru-
mentum carum, & caro, & caŷeus,

^a What is Vas ?

§. 7. *If wha before Bishop, his Witnefs, and his Wed,*
Gif hwa beforan Bifcope, his Gewitnefs and his Wed
caufe to lye, give boot with hundred twenty Shillings.
 aleoge gebete mid hund twelftig Scillinges.

Any Scholar muft certainly be convinced of the Inaccuracies of Wilkins, and the impoffibility of understanding the Original from his pretended Tranflations. The next Extract we fhall felect from the Saxon Chronicle; which has been edited by the learned Gibfon with greater care and fidelity, than we have met with in our re-fearches; but ftill we attempt to prove, even from this beft Specimen, that the Latin Language cannot convey ideas equally accurate or correct, as may be acquired through the medium of English Phrafeology.

SAXON CHRONICLE.

I nay can and nay may tell all the Wounds nor all the
I ne canne and ne mai tellen alle the Wundes ne alle the
Pains, that they did wretched men in this Land, and that lafted
Pines, that hi diden wrecce men on this Land, and that laftede
the 19 Winters, while Stephen was king, and ever it was worfe
tha 19 Wintre, wile Stephne was king, and ævre it was werfe
and worfe. They laid Gelt on the Towns every while, and
and werfe. Hi laiden gæildes on the Tunes æureu wile, and
yclept it ^a tenth-penny. ^b Then the wretched men not had any
clepeden it tenfeprie. Tha the wrecce men ne hadden nan
more to give, then ravished they and burnt all the Towns, that
more to given, tha ræveden hi and brendon alle the Tunes, that

^a Gibfon fays “quæ fit hujus vocabuli fignificatio videant alii,” but every perfon con-verfant in ancient Records, where there are frequent contractions, knows that tenfeprie would be tenfepennie, and collateral hiftorical authority juftifies our interpretation.

^b Synonymous to modern when.

on ælmes þe þaſen ſum þile rice
 men. ſum þluzen ut of lande.
 Fer næwe gæt mape þrecched
 on land. ne næwe heðen men
 þeſe ne ðiden þan hi ðiden.
 for ouer riðon ne for-þaſen hi
 nouþer cipe. ne cýnceaþe. oc
 nam al þe god ꝥ þaſ inne þaſ.
 7 þenðen rýðen þe cýnce 7
 altegæðe.

& butyrum, quippe nihil eorum
 fuit in hac terra. Pauperes peri-
 bant fame: nonnulli ostiatim
 victum petebant, qui fuerant olim
 divites; & aliqui terram relinque-
 runt. Nunquam adhuc erant
 majores calamitates in hac terra,
 neque unquam pagni plus mali
 quam hi fecerunt; tandem enim
 neque pepercerunt Ecclesiæ, ne-
 que cœmiterio, sed eripuerunt
 quicquid boni inibi fuit, tuncque
 ignes admoverunt Ecclesiæ, &
 rebus quæ superessent.

*well thou mightest^c far on all a day, fore shouldest thou ever find
wel thu mihtes faren all adæis, fare sculdest thu neure finden
man in town sitting, or land tilled. Then was corn dear and
man in tune sittende, ne land tiled. Tha was corn dære and
flesh and cheese and butter, for none nay was in the land. Wretched
flec and cæse and butere, for nan ne wæs o the land. Wrecce
men starven of hunger, some^d fedden on alms that were somewhile
men sturven of hunger, sume jeden on ælmes the weren sum wile
rich men, some flown out of the land. Was never yet more
rice men, sum flugen ut of lande. Wæs næure gæt mare
wretchedness in land, nor ever heathen men worse nay did, than
wrecched on land, ne neure hethen men werse ne diden, than
they did, for ever siththence not forborne they neither Church,
hi diden, for over sithon ne for-baren hi nouthen Circe,
nor Church-yard, but nimmed all the goods that therein was, and
ne Cyrcejærd, oc nam al the god that thar inne was, and
burnt siththence the Church and altogether.
brenden sythen the cyrce and altegædre.*

To prove that Saxon Literature has not been cultivated with greater attention, or success, at a subsequent period; we shall exhibit the Conclusion of Alfred's Will, published by the University of Oxford, with the Annotations and Version of Manning, the Editor of Lye's Saxon Dictionary. And here, we cannot but lament, that the Corrector of the Press should have confounded the Unity of this valuable Document, by printing the Saxon Introduction, in the Register of the Abbey of New-minster, as the Will of the amiable and benevolent Alfred, and confounding the reader by a double preamble, in direct contradiction to the Copy transmitted. As a *literal* English Translation is here attempted, we shall add the Latin Version as a Note, to shew that this Record has been studied through the medium of the Latin Language.

^c Farr-on—advance.

^d Probably an error, *j* for *f*.

EXTRACTS FROM ALFRED'S WILL,

In Bibliotheca Aftleianâ, p. 24.

ORIGINAL.

7 ic biððe on Ʒoder naman.
7 on his halizna. Ʒ minra maga
nan. ne Ʒrfepearða ne Ʒerpence
nan. neniz cƷpeliz þara þe ic
forƷeald. 7 me perƷ-Ʒeaxena
Ʒitan to rihte Ʒenehton þæt ic
hi mot lætan Ʒpa Ʒreo Ʒpa þeoƷe
Ʒpaðer ic Ʒille. ac ic for Ʒoder
lufan. 7 for minre Ʒaple þearfe.
Ʒylle Ʒ hƷ Ʒyn heoƷa ƷreolƷer
ƷƷrðe. 7 hƷna cƷƷer. 7 ic on
Ʒoder lifienðer naman beode þæt
hƷ nan man ne bƷocie. ne mid
ƷeoƷ manuzge. ne mid nænizum
þingum. Ʒ hƷ ne motan ceoƷan
ƷƷylcne mann ƷƷylce hƷ ƷƷyllan.

7 ic Ʒylle þæt man aƷƷƷe þam
hiƷum æt ðompa hamme hƷna
land bec. 7 hƷna ƷreolƷ ƷƷylce
hand to ceoƷeenne Ʒylce him
leoƷaƷt ƷƷ. for me. 7 for æl-

LITERAL ENGLISH TRANSLATION
OF THE EDITOR.

And I beſeech, in God's name,
and in his Saints', that of my Re-
lations none, nor of my heirs
none do obſtruct, none of the
freedom of thoſe that I have re-
deemed. And for me the Weſt-
Saxon Nobles as lawful have pro-
nounced that I them may leave
either free or bond whether I
will. But I, for God's love, and
for my Soul's advantage, will
that they be of their freedom
Maſters, and of their Will, and
I, in God the living's name in-
treat that them no man do not
diſturb, neither by Money-ex-
action, nor by no manner of
means, that they may not chuſe
ſuch Man as they will.

And I will that they reſtore to
the families at Domerham their
Land-Deeds, and their free li-
berty ſuch perſon to chuſe, as to
them moſt agreeable may be;
for

EXTRACTS from ALFRED'S WILL, in the Possession of
T. ASTLE, Esq; with a literal verbatim Rendering.

And I bid in God's Name, and in his holy ones, that my
And ic bidde on Godes Naman, and on his haligra, that minra
Megs none no reeveeward not squench none, nor any Court-leave,
maga nan ne urfewearða ne gefwence nan, nænig Curelif,
there that I fore-sealed, and me West-saxon Wights to right
thara the ic foreseald, and me west-seaxena witan to rihte
righted, that I they might let (be) so free so thieves whether
gerehton, thæt ic hi mot lætan swa freo swa theorve swather
I will. And I for God's Love, and for my Soul's thrift,
ic wille. ac ic for godes lufan, and for minre fawle thearve
will, that they be their franchise worthy, and their ^a Courts.
wylle, that hy syn heora freolfes wyrthe, and hyra Cyres.
And I in God's living Name bid that they no man nay
And ic on Godes lifendes Naman beode thæt hy nan man ne
break, nay with fees manage, nor with not any thing, that
brocie, ne mid feos manunge, ne mid nænigum thingum, that
they not might choose such ^b man, such they will.
hy ne motan ceosan fwulcne mann fwylce hy wyllan.

And I will that man give them high-ones at Domerham
And ic wylle thæt man agyfe tham hiwum æt Domra-hamme
their Land ^c Book, and their ^d free-will such hand to choose,
hyra land bec, and hyra freols fwulce hand to ceofenne,

^a *Chairs* approximates nearer to the Original ; hence the Chair of Justice, to take the Chair, to act as President.

^b Patron, or Life Lord.—18 Liberi homines commendati tantum.

Little Domesday, for Norfolk, 249. a.

^c Most probably Land-book or Book-land, since Alfred was not likely to have disseised them of that land, which Elfeda had conferred.

^d We presume free-will or franchise, for it aproximates much nearer than the variation of spelling in many words—give for instance.

such

plæde. 7 for þa frýnd þe heo forþingode. 7 ic forþingie. for me, and for Elfreda, and for the friends that she did intercede for, and I do intercede for.

7 sec man eac on cpicum ceape ymbe minre saple þearfe. rpa hit beon mæge. 7 rpa hit eac gepyrne ry. 7 rpa ge me forgyfan pyllan. * And seek they also, with a living price, for my Soul's health, as it be may, and as it also fitting is; and as ye me to forgive shall be disposed.

MANNING'S LATIN TRANSLATION.

* Item, Obtestor, in Dei Nomine, et ejus Sanctorum, ut meorum consanguineorum nemo, neque hæredum interpellat nemo, arbitrio suo utendi facultatem eorum quos redemi è servitute. Profecto mihi West-Saxonum Optimates legitimum censuerunt, ut ego istos possem relinquere, sive liberos, sive servos, utrum vellem. At ego, propter Dei amorem, et propter animæ meæ salutem, volo ut sint libertatis suæ compotes et arbitrii. Necnon in Dei viventis nomine obsecro, ut eos nemo vexet, neque pecuniæ exactione, neque alio quovis modo, quo minus possint eligere talem Dominum qualem ipsi velint.

Item, Volo ut reddantur familiis apud Domer Manerium, eorum Chartæ, et eorum licentia talem Dominum eligendi qualem ipsis placuerit, propter me, et propter Ælfledam, et propter amicos pro quibus ipsa intercedebat, atque ego intercedo.

Denique, Imploretur Deus, viventi pretio, pro animæ meæ salute, quantum fieri possit, uti etiam congruum est, et prout vos mihi condonare velitis.

*such them liefest be, for me, and for Elflæda, and for the friend
 swulce him leofast fy, for me, and for Ælflæda, and for tha frynd
 that hoo forethought and I forethink.
 the heo forethingode and ic forethingie.*

*And seek man eke on ^e wick ^f Cheap about my Soul's thrift,
 And sec man eac on cwicum ceape ymbe minre sawle thearfe,
 so it be may, and so it eke rising be, and so yea me
 swa hit beon mæge, and swa hit eac gerysne fy, and swa ge me
 forgiven (it) will.
 forgyfan wyllan.*

There are many other passages in this Will, that demand similar Examination and Illustration. The Land which Alfred's Grandfather had entailed on the weaponed half, (that is) the Spear-half, in Opposition to the Spindle-half, and which, if transferred into a Wife's or Female Hand, he orders to be purchased by his Heirs, and restored to the proper Line, is constantly confounded with the Acquisitions he had made, when the word is ^g astryndon, strengthened, restrained, or straitened, not begæton, as in the Introduction of this Record. In confirmation of this interpretation, we find him urging the justice of such restoration of property to the entailed line, because he had bequeathed to his Heirs Male, many more Estates than they would be necessitated to repurchase, that he might have bestowed on Females. But we reserve farther comment to a future opportunity, in our historical Dissertation on Ranks and Services.

The next Specimen we shall exhibit is an antient Proclamation of Henry the third, which Somner considers a Saxon Record, Lord Lyttleton an Old-english Document.—*Som. Dict. ad verbum unnan.*

^e Alive—Northern Dialect—living—

^f Cheap-men—modern Chap-men, selling their wares at a fixed price.

^g For variation of spelling, take *give* an example—Gif, yef, if, yf, yeve, yeoven, given, giffis, geive, gin ye will, gi' me.

ROTUL. PATEN. de Anno 43. Hen. 3. Memb. 15. N° 40.

SOMNER ad verbum *unnan*.

þenr. þurȝ Godeſ fultume
King^a on Englene loande. Lhoavepð
on Ypland. Duk on Norþm.
on Aquitain 7 Eopl on Aniou.
rend ȝȝetȝ to alle hiȝe^b holde
ilæpðe 7 ilepð on þuntindonn
rchip. þæt piten ȝe pe alle þæt
pe pillen 7 unnen þæt þæt upe
pædermen alle. oþer þe moape
dæl of heom þæt beoþ ȝchoren
þurȝ ur 7 þurȝ þæt loander
folk on upe kunepiche hebbep
ðon 7 rchullen ðon in þe poþþ-
nerre of Gode 7 on upe tpeopþe
for þe ppeine of þe loande.
þurȝe þe berȝte of þan to
poþen ȝeide pædermen beo
rteðepært and ȝleſtinde in alle
þinge abutan ænde. And pe
heaten alle upe tpeope in þe
tpeopþe þæt heo ur oȝen. ꝥ
heo ſteðe-pærtliche healden 7
rpepen to healden 7 to pepien
þe ȝretnerre þæt beon makeðe
7 beon to makien þurȝ þan to
poþen ȝeide pædermen. oþer

Henricus Dei adjutorio Rex
Angliæ, Dominus Hiberniæ, Dux
Normanniæ, Aquitainæ, & Co-
mes Andegaviæ, Salutem mittit
(i. dicit) omnibus fidelibus ſuis,
clericis & laicis in Comitatu Hun-
tindoniæ. Vobis omnibus notum
facimus, quod volumus & conce-
dimus ut quod Confiliarii noſtri
omnes, ſive major eorum pars, qui
fuerint electi à nobis & à gentis
plebe in Regno noſtro, fecerint
& facturi ſint (i. e. decreverint) in
honorem Dei, & fidelitatis quâ
nobis obligantur intuitu, pro bono
gentis, per conſilium antedic-
torum conſiliariorum, (eo nomine
ſcilicet) firmum ſit & ſtabile per
omnia in perpetuum. Et præce-
pimus omnibus fidelibus noſtris,
per fidem (vel, fidelitatem) quam
nobis debent, ut firmiter obſer-
vent & obſervare (vel, obſerva-
turos ſe) jurent & tueri, conſulta
quæ ab antediſtis Conſiliariis, ſive
à majori ipſorum parte, facta &

^a In Bibliotheca Aſtleianâ uniformly ou, not on.

^b A different diviſion of Letters is adopted.

PATENT ROLL Anno 43. Henry 3. Memb. 15. N° 40.

SOMNER ad verbum *unnan*.

*Henry through God's^a fultume, King of Englandsland, ^b Lord
 Henr. thurg Godes fultume, King ou Engleneloande, Lhoaverd
 of Ireland, Duke of Normandy, of Aquitain, and Earl of Anjou,
 ou Yrland, Duk ou Norman, ou Aquitain, and Earl ou Anjou,
 send I greeting to all his whole^c servants of the Lord, and^d allowed
 send igretinge to alle hife hol theilaerde, and ilewede,
 of Huntingdon Shire, that^e ween ye well all, that we will
 ou Huntendonn Schir, that witen ge well alle, thæt we willen
 and wull, that that our^f Read-men all, or the more Deal of
 and^g uune, thæt thæt our Rædesmen alle othe the moare Dael of
 them, that be chosen thorough us, and thorough that^h Landsfolk,
 heom, that beoh ichosen thurg us, and thurg thæt Loandesfolk,*

^a Fultume, or Fulture, from Fultura, Support.

^b Lif-erth—Life-earth—Source of Life or of Bread, *Loaf*, hence *Bread* is the *Stuff*, or *Staff*, of *Life*.

^c From theow Servants, hence modern thief, and the Provincialism, "Do you thou me, i. e. call me a slave?"—in Lancashire Dialect still theow.

^d Allowed, lawful—Pacem Regis habentes in the Law—neither Villains or Thiefs—hence Alloy, or Allay—lawful Money with a proportion of lawful base Metal.

^e The true Derivation of Words will so easily and naturally appear, from these Sources, that it will be frequently unnecessary to comment on them.

^f Men of Letters—Reading—Witens—or Wisemen.

^g Somner gives this Charter in his *Dictionary Saxonico-latino-anglicum*, under the Verb *unnan*, a word no where found but in this passage, according to his conception of the passage.—The Original is abbreviated thus, *wune*, and from the common expression in Lancashire, "I will and wull," we have little doubt that our Interpretation is correct.—Lye is subject to this error.

^h The Folk of that County—Knights of that County—Communitas—for similar Writs were directed to each Shire of England and *Ireland*—Tyrrel's Common People is ridiculous, for there never was a Knight from an Irish *Election*, a *Representative* to an English Parliament—but of this in our History.

þurȝ þe moape dæl of heom
 alȝo alre hit is be ȝopen ireid.
 And þæt æhc oþer helpe þæt
 ȝor to done bi þam ilche oþe
 aȝener alle men (paucula quæ-
 dam hic deesse videntur, hæc sci-
 licet aut similia: in alle þinge
 þæt) oȝt ȝor to done ȝ to
 ȝoangen. And noan ne mine of
 loande ne of eȝtephær þurȝ þis
 beȝte muȝe beon ilec oþer
 iȝeȝed on onie ȝire. And ȝif
 on oþer onie cumen heȝ onȝener
 ȝe pillen ȝ heaten þæt alle uȝe
 tȝeoȝe heom healden deaðliche-
 iȝtan. And ȝor þæt ȝe pillen
 þæt þis beo ȝtederæȝt ȝ leȝtinde
 ȝe ȝenden ȝeȝ þis ȝȝit open
 iȝeined ȝiþ uȝe ȝeel to halden
 amanger ȝeȝ ine hoȝd. ȝitner
 uȝ ȝeluen æt Lundæn. þane
 eȝtetenþe dæg on þe monþe of
 Octobr. in þe tȝo ȝ ȝoȝerȝigþe
 ȝeape of uȝe cȝunninge. And
 þis ȝær idon ætȝopen uȝe iȝo-
 ȝen ȝædermen Bonerac. arche-
 biȝhop on Kanterbur. ȝalter
 of Cantelop biȝhop on Kȝe-
 cheȝȝ. Sim. of Muntȝoȝt Eoȝl
 on Leȝcheȝȝ. Ric. of Clap
 Eoȝl on Gloȝcheȝȝ. ȝ on þaȝt-
 ȝoȝd. Roȝen Biȝoȝ Eoȝl on

facienda sunt, sicut prædictum est.
 Et quod unusquisque, vigore
 ejusdem juramenti, contra omnes
 homines, in omnibus tum faci-
 endis, tum recipiendis, ut id ita
 fiat & observetur, alter alteri sint
 auxilio. Et (quod) nullus five de
 terrâ (vel, gente) meâ, five qua-
 cunque aliâ, per consilium hujus-
 modi (hujus scil. consilii obeundi
 causâ) impediatur, five damnum
 patiat, ullo modo. Et si quis,
 five vir five fœmina, huic (edicto)
 contravenerit, volumus & man-
 damus ut omnes fideles nostri eos
 habeant infensissimos. Et quia
 volumus ut hoc firmum sit &
 stabile, mittimus vobis hoc scrip-
 tum patens, sigillo nostro signa-
 tum, penes vos in archivo repo-
 nendum. Teste nobis ipsis Lon-
 dini decimo octavo die mensis
 Octobris anno coronationis nostræ
 (vel, regni nostri) quadragesimo
 secundo. Hoc autem gestum fuit
 coram juratis consiliariis nostris,
 Bonifacio, Archiepiscopo Cantu-
 ariensi, Waltero de Cantilupo,
 Episcopo Wigornienſi, Simone
 de Monteforti, Comite de Lei-
 cestrenſi, Richardo de Clare,
 Comite Glocestrenſi & Hartfor-
 diensi,

*in our King's Reach, haveth done and shall do, in the Worthi-
on ure Kyneriche habbeth idon and schullen don, in the Worth-
ness of God, and in our Truth, for the Freemen of the Land,
ness of Gode, and on ure Treowthe, for the Freime of the Loande,
thorough the sight of the heretofore said Read-men, be stedfast
thurge the besigte of thantsforen ifeide Rædesmen, beo stedefæst
and lasting, in all things without end. And weⁱ ordain all our
and ilestinde, in alle thinge abutan ænde. And we heaten alle ure
true (men) in the Truth that they us owe, that they steadfast-
treowe in the Treowthe thæt heo us oge, thæt heo stede-fæst-
like holden, and swearen to holden, and to warden, the^k settinesses
lich healden, and sweren to healden, and to werien, the ifetnesses
that bin maked and bin to make, thorough the heretofore said
that beon maked and beon to makæn, thurg than to foren ifeide
Read-men, or thorough the more deal of them, also as it
rædesmen, other thurg the moare dæl of heom, alswa alse hit
is befor said. And that each other help that for to do by their
is beforen ifeid. And thæt æhc other helpe thæt for to done bi them
^l ilk Oath, against all men right for to do, and to^m fang. And
ilche othe, agenes alle men rght for to done and to foangen. And
none nor of mine Land, nor ofⁿ oughtwhere, thorough his setting
noan ne mine of loande, nor of egte-whær, thurg his besigte
may be lett, or worsed in any wise. And if^o ony or
muge beon ilet, other iwerfed on onie wise. And gif oni other*

ⁱ Higt, to command—Skinner—hence English ordain—heaten, a thing ordained.

^k Setnesses, things set at the Sitting, what was determined at the Sitting or Sessions, synonymous to Assize Assia—Hence beheft, be fit, or set—what ordained at the Session.

^l Ilk, Spencer the *same*.

^m Destruction fang Mankind—Shakespeare, *Timon*.—We still have Dogs-fangs, Teeth, the Holders, consequently hold.

ⁿ Anywhere—a Lancashire provincialism.

^o Ony, Lancashire for any.—Here oni and onie are the masculine and feminine gender, Man or Woman.

Nonþfolk. 7 Mapercal on Engle
loand. Peppes of Sauueye. Kill.
of Fort Earl on Aubem. Ioh.
Pleppiz Earl on Kaprik. Ioh.
Geppneerrune. Peppes of Munt-
port. Ric. of Grey. Roger of
Montemer. Iames of Aldithel.
7 ætþoren ofþe moze.

And al on þo ilche porþen is
isend into aþuichte ofþe schipe
ouer al þare kunerliche on Eng-
lene loand. 7 ek in tel Iþelonde.

dienfi, Rogero Bigod, Comite
Norfolcienfi & Angliæ Maref-
callo, Petro de Sabaudia, Wil-
lielmo de Fort, Comite Alber-
marliæ, Johanne Pleffiz, Comite
Warwicienfi, Johanne filio Gal-
fridi, Petro de Monteforti, Ri-
chardo de Grey, Rogero de Mor-
tuomari, Jacobo de Aldithel. &
coram aliis pluribus.

Et omnino eisdem (vel totidem)
verbis missum est in unum-
quemque per universum reg-
num Angliæ Comitatum, ac
etiam usque in *Hiberniam*.

any come here against, we will and ordain that all our onie cumen her ongenes, we willen and heaten thæt alle ure truemen them holden ^p deadly. If then, and for that we will treowe heom healden deadliche. If than, and for that we willen that this be stedfast and lasting, we send you this Writ open thæt this beo stedefeste and lestinde, we senden gew this writ open signed with our Seal to hold amongst you in ^a Herd. Witnes ifeined with ure feel to halden amanges gew ine hord. Witnes ourselves at London the eighteenth Day in the Month of wi felven æt Lundæn thane egtetenthe Day on the Monthe of October, in the two and fortieth year of our crowning. And Octobr, in the two and fowertigthe geare of ure crunninge. And this was done afore our sworn Read-men Boniface Archbishop of Canterbury, Walter of Cantilupe Bishop of Worcester, Simon on Canterbur, Walter of Cantelop Bisshop on Wirecheſtr, Sim. of Montfort Earl of Leiceſter. of Muntfort Eorld on Leircheſtr, &c.

The Saxon Poetry, that has been transmitted to us, admits of a similar Translation. The first specimen we shall exhibit is the conclusion of a Saxon Ode on a Victory of King Athelstan's. In this Poem Henry of Huntingdon complains of certain "*extraneous Words and uncommon Figures*," which Warton terms "*Scaldic Expressions or Allusions*." We pretend not to any acquaintance with such Language, but we are certain that he has not "given a literal English Translation of this Poem," as he professes. The Original is extracted from Gibson's Saxon Chronicle, with his Latin, and Warton's English, Version.

^p In the language of that age, wolf-headed, gerentes caput-lupinum.

^a In Congregation—a Number assembled.

CHRONICON SAXONICUM.

Anno 938. ^a Gibfon. p. 114.

Ne pearð pæl mape. on ðiſ
eizlande. æſer gýta. folcer ge-
pylled. beforan þýrrum. rpeor-
der ecgum. þær þe ur recgað
bec. ealde uðritan. riððaneartan
hider Engle 7 Seaxe. up beco-
mon. ofer þýmum bpað. Bpý-
tene rohton. plance pýrmiðar.
Kealler ofer-comon. eonlar aþi-
hpate. eapð begeatan. ^b

Non fuit ſtrages major in hac
Infula unquam [plureſive] populi
occifi antehac gladii acie, (quos
commemorant Liberi veterum
Historicorum) ex quo ab Oriente
huc Angli ac Saxones appellentes,
& per mare latum Britanniam
petentes, inſignes bellorum fabri,
Britannos ſuperabant, Duces ho-
nore præſtantes: [&] terram oc-
cupabant.

^a This Chronicle, edited by Gibfon, before he took his Maſter's Degree, ap-
proaches nearer to the Original, than any Verſion or Tranſlation we have met with.
Gibfon was afterwards Biſhop of London;—He was a ſound Scholar, an able Divine,
and zealous Friend to our Eſtabliſhment; he enforced pure practical Piety on true
Chriſtian Principles, not for the grand *oſtentatious* ſake of “ maintaining the Pre-
eminence of our Church over all Proteſtant States,” * he countenanced not Sectaries,
he encouraged not Schiſmatics.

^b “ Never was ſo great a ſlaughter in this iſland, ſince the Angles and Saxons, the
fierce beginners of war, coming hither from the eaſt, and ſeeking Britain through the
wide ſea, overcame the Britons excelling in honour, and gained poſſeſſion of their
land.” See Diſſertation I. Warton's Poetry.

* See a late circular Letter—and occaſionally one Word, Sentence, or Action gives a
truer Knowledge of the real Character, than the *Actor* diſplays on the Stage.—The bene-
volent, pious, and orthodox Charles Baldwin of Manchester, a lay Gentleman, but a ſound
Divine, will probably enlarge on ſuch ſubject.

WARTON'S

SAXON CHRONICLE.

An. 938. Gibson. p. 114.



* *Nor were there Wail more, in this Island, ever as yet, (with)*
 Ne wærth wæl mare, on this Eiglande, æfer gyta,
folks filled, before this, (by) swords edges, thus they us
 folces gefylled, beforan thiſſum, ſweordes ecgum, thæs the us
(that) seeketh book, elder oth' wiſemen, ſith-thence Eaſterns hither,
 ſecgath bec, ealde uth witan, ſiththan eaſtan hider,
Angles and Saxons, up came, o'er (the) briny broad, Britain
 Engle and Seaxe, up becomon, ofer brynum brad, Brytene
ſoughten, Lance with Smiths, Welch overcame, earls harrowed,
 ſohton, wlance wig Smithas, Wealles ofer-comon, eorlas arhwate,
earth they gotten.
 eard begeatan.

The numerous Extracts of antient English Poetry, published by Warton in the first Volume of his History, are all copied from Originals in the Saxon Character, and chiefly transcribed from the Thesaurus of Hickes. We shall select a Specimen, to prove the necessity of purifying the Text by conjectural Criticism, on rational principles, in this branch of Literature; and at the same time contradict that arrogant and ignorant assertion of the late Lord ^b Orford, that there "never did exist a more barbarous Jargon than the Dialect, still venerated by Antiquaries, and called Saxon." Let us oppose "Jonson's learned Soc," to this modern buskin'd Hero. In ^c "Composition, our English Tongue, (which we think is

^a They who are acquainted with Saxon Manuscripts will justify this reading.

^b Walpole's Historic Doubts, p. 10.

^c Ben Jonson's English Grammar, which we hope some sound Scholar will speedily reprint, with a few necessary alterations, to modernize it for the generality of readers.

—To this Work Mr. Tooke is much indebted.

WARTON'S ENGLISH POETRY, Vol. I. p. 13.

þphen ȝuhtin o ȝomeȝdei þind-
 þeð hir hþeate,
 And þeppeð þæt ȝurȝi chep to
 hellene heate,
 þe mote beon a ȝorn i ȝodeȝ
 ȝuldene eðene,
 Ðe ȝurȝe ȝiȝ of latin to Engh-
 rche leðene
 And he þæt heȝ leaȝ onþȝat
 ȝþa aȝ he cuþe. AMEN.

That is, "When the judge at
 Doomſday winnows his wheat
 and drives the duſty chaff into
 the heat of hell; may there be
 a corner in god's golden Eden
 for him who turned this book
 into * Latin, &c.

* This muſt ſolely be attributed to Warton's careleſſneſs, ſince, immediately pre-
 ceding, he ſtates, "It was tranſlated from the Latin." The inaccuracy in the Saxon
 muſt be immediately obvious to the Scholar.

proved to be the Saxon) is above all other very hardy and happy, joining together, after a most eloquent manner, ^d *sundry words of every kind of speech.*"

^d Selections from Jonson—Mill-horse, Lip-wife, Self-love, * Twy-light, thereabout, not-with-standing, † be-cause, Table-nap-kin, Wood-bind, a Puff-cheek, Draw-well, Handi-craft, Foot-ball-player, a Tennis-court-keeper; we could subjoin innumerable other instances of its Precision, Accuracy, and Beauty, which entitle it to an Equality with the Grecian Language for combining Ideas, and fully establish its Superiority over the Latin and ‡ French vague Phrases and tautological Idioms. In || *Strength* and Simplicity it is unrivalled—only *two* Declensions of Nouns.

* Tween-light, betwixt Light and Darknes.

† Be the Cause, or Case.

‡ I never see a Gallicism, or French Word anglicised, but I could exclaim with Ben Jonson's Peniboy—"There's a fine new Word Thom, pray God it signify any thing."

Staple of News.

|| Seven Consonants to one Vowel—the Sound an Eccho to the Sense.

WARTONS' ENGLISH POETRY, Vol. I. p. 13.

When ^a *Do-right o'* ^b *Dooms-day winnoweth his wheat,*
 Hwhen drightin o domesdei windthreth his hweate,
And throweth the dusty Chaff to Hell's Heat,
 And therweth thæt dusti Chef to hellen heate,
Ah! might be one Corner in God's golden Eden,
 He mote be ona corn i godes guldene edene,
That throweth this of Latin to English ^c *reading,*
 The turthe this of Latin to Englische redene,
An he that her least unthrowed so as he couth.
 And he thæt her least onthrat fwa as he cuth. Amen.

^a The Title of our Lord.

^b Doom Judgment—Wind-throweth—wind-thrath. Warton has mistaken the *th* for *w* thrice, and *p* for *w* once, in these five lines.

^c In antient MS. the *r* approximates in form frequently to a *j* or *f*.

Warton prefaces his Work by a curious assertion that "the Saxon Poetry has no connection with the nature or purpose of his undertaking;" but if any reader will consult Hickes's learned Thesaurus, he will find "most^d Citations (not) extracted from ancient Manuscript Poems never before printed," but verbatim et literatim transcribed from the Anglo-saxon printed characters, without amendment, or alteration, in the division or explanation of the Original. We shall exhibit one Extract to facilitate the reading of such Poetry, in Warton's Language, and our corresponding modern, accented, and divided rythmically.

Màiden Margaret—one Night in prison lay,
Meiden Margarete one nitt in prison lai,
Hèr came before Olibrius—on that other Day.
Ho com biforn Olibrius on that other dai.
Màiden Margaret—lift up upon my Lay,
Meiden Margarete, lef up upon my lay,
And jesu thou believest on—thou do him all away.
And Ihu that thou levest on, thou do him al away.
Live in me and be my Wife—full well thou may speed,
Lef on me ant be my wife, ful wel the mai spede.
Antioch and Asia—shalt thou have to meed:
Auntioge and Asie scaltou han to mede:
Check-lawn and purple Pall—shalt thou have to wed:
Ciculauton and purpel pall scaltou have to wede:
With all the Meàts of my Lànd—full well I shall thee feed.
With all the metes of my lond ful vel I scal the fede.

^d Preface, p. 6.

The accomplished Alfred, in his valuable Translation of Bede's Ecclesiastical History, has transmitted a Chorus, or Burthen of a Hymn, of the presumedly inspired Cædmon. The judgment of this Monarch would not permit him to imitate Bede's affected Version, and he consequently transcribed the Original. Any Scholar that will compare the venerable Author's ^a sense of this passage, or collate the various Readings of different Manuscripts of this Poem, will make great allowance for our imperfections; for we pretend not to be uniformly right, though, we imagine, less incorrect than our predecessors. We give our Original from the best Edition.

EXTRACT from BEDE'S ^b HISTORY, and a FRAGMENT
of CÆDMON. Smith's Edit. p. 597, and 170.

*Cædmon sing me somewhat, then answereth he and quoth, not
Cedmon sing me hwæt, tha andswareth he and cwæth, ne
can I none thing sing, and I for-that of this Boroughship
con ic nan thing singan, and ic forthon of thyssum gebeorscipe
^c outed and hither ^d gowed, for that I naught sing nay couth. After
uteode and hider gewat, forthon ic noght singan ne cuth. Eft
him quoth he, that with him speaking was, However thou might
he cwæte se, the mid him sprecende wæs, hwæthere thu meaht
me sing, quoth he. What shall I sing, quoth he. Sing me
me singan, cwæth he. Hwæt sceal ic singan, cwæth he. Sing me*

^a Hic est *Sensus*, non autem *Ordo ipse Verborum*.

Bed. Eccles. Hist. Edit. Smith. p. 171.

^b We have taken the privilege of adopting such Readings as we judge the purest, and of modernizing some words.

^c Went out.

^d Modern went.

BEDÆ ECCLESIASTICA HISTORIA CUM FRAGMENTO

CÆDMON. Ed. Smith, p. 579 & 170.

Lædmon. ring me [hpæt]
 hpegu. Ða 7rpapedý he 7 cpæþ.
 Ne con ic nan ðing ringan. 7 ic
 forþon of ðýrrum zebeorþcipe
 ut eode 7 hider gepat. forþon
 ic noht [ringan ne] cuþe: Eft
 he cpæþ reþe [míð] him rpre-
 cende pær. hpæþeþe ðu meahst
 me ringan. cpæþ he. hpæt rceal
 ic ringan. cpæþ he. ðing me
 rþumrceapt: þa he ða ðar
 7rpape onfeng. Ða ongan he
 rona ringan in heþenerre Godeþ
 rcýppender ða feþr 7 ða forð
 ðe he næfre ne gehýrde. Ðara
 endebýrðnerre ðis is.

Nu we rceolan heþizean heo-
 ron rices pearð. metoder mihste
 7 his mod gehanc. [þeorc] pulðor
 pæder. Ðpa he pulðer gehpær
 ece Drihten ord onrtealde. he
 æperst zercop eorþan bearnum
 heoron to rofe halig rcýppend.
 Ða middan gearð mon cýnner
 pearð ece Drihtne æfter teode
 rþum forðan rþea ælmihtig.

Cædmon, inquit, canta mihi
 aliquid. At ille respondens,
 Nescio, inquit, cantare; nam &
 ideo de convivio egressus huc
 secessi, quia cantare non pote-
 ram. Rursum ille qui cum eo
 loquebatur, Attamen, ait, mihi
 cantare habes. Quid, inquit,
 debeo cantare? At ille, Canta,
 inquit, principium creaturarum.
 Quo accepto responso, statim ipse
 cœpit cantare in laudem Dei
 conditoris versus, quos nunquam
 audierat, quorum iste est sensus:

Nunc laudare debemus aucto-
 rem regni cælestis, potentiam
 creatoris, & consilium illius facta
 Patris gloriæ. Quomodo ille cum
 sit æternus Deus, omnium mi-
 raculorum auctor exstitit, qui
 primo filiis hominum cælum pro
 culmine tecti, de hinc terram
 custos humani generis omnipo-
 tens creavit.

** forming of Creatures. When he then this answer ^f unfanged, frumsceaert ^g Tha he tha thas andsware onfeng, then began he soon sing in earnest, God shaping (it), that tha ongan he sona singan in herenesse, Godes scyppendes, tha verse and that word, that he never nay heard—their end-burthens fers and tha word, the he næfre ne gehyrde—thara endeburdnesse this is.*
this is.

Now we shall hearen ^h heaven's ⁱ Reach word, mighty's might; Nu we sceolan herigean heofon Rices weard, mitodes miht; and his mode of thought; worked worlds father; so he worlds and his mod gethanc; weorc wuldor fæder; swa he wuldres give was; eke Do-right earth in stilled; ^k he erst shaped ^l elder geh wæs; ece Drihten ord onstealde; he erst gescop ælda Barns ^m Heavens to roof holy Shaping; then middle earth bearnum heofon to rose halig Scyppend. tha middan geard men's kind ⁿ world eke Do-right after tied, ^o free folds from mon cynnes weard ece Drihtne æfter teode, fram foldan frea (the) Almighty.

Ælmihtig.

^e From frm, on our system, are derived firm, form, from, farm, formation, &c.

^f Unfanged—opposite to fang—not-hold—let go—delivered.

^g The Saxon *f* and *þ* are easily mistaken.

^h The concluding *n* the antient characteristic of the plural number, as *loven*, *chosen*, &c. became obsolete in the time of Henry the eighth, and in the opinion of Ben Jonson this change has produced great confusion and errors in our language.

ⁱ Synonymous with Realm.

^k The Father.

^l M. S. *Eliens*.

^m To Heaven's Roof.

ⁿ The omission of a letter here, *I*, is sometimes not to be much regarded.

^o Men created free beings.

The numerous errors of Wheloc, the quondam Arabic and Saxon Cambridge Professor, have been so fully proved by the subsequent Editor of Beda, that it might appear unnecessary to give any Extract from his Works : but since he has attempted to translate part of a curious old English Poem into Latin Verse, we will just exhibit a Specimen.



BEDÆ ECCLES. HIS. PER WHELOC, p. 25.

Poeta quidam nostras & vetus. M.S. Coll. Trin. Cantab. p. 10,
ita cecinit.

of all for one Woman

..... of alle for one Wiman

*That Helen was ycleped this Battle first began ;
That Heleine was icleped this Baitaille first began ;
One high man was there before, that ycleped was Dardan,
On heig man was ther bifore, that ycleped was Dardan,
Of him come the good Brutus, that was the first man,
On him com the Gode Brutus, that was the furste man,
That Lord was in England, as I you tell can.
That Louerd was in Engeland, asc ic eu telle kan.*

Sic Latine dedi—hæc unica fæmina, prima.

*Ante omnes sævit Trojani femina Belli
Hanc Britones dixere Helenam, sed Dardanus ille
Excelsus Bruti pater extitit, unde Britanni
Heroum sumpfere genus ; fortissimus idem
Hunc orbem primus regere & dominarier ansus.*

Having proved the inadequacy of all our best Saxon Scholars to convey accurate ideas of the ^a "British-saxon, Anglo-saxon, or Norman-saxon Documents," through the medium of a ^b Latin Translation; and having, as we presume, shewn that the English Tongue is the natural offspring of these Languages, (and Children surely have more Affinity to their Parents, and are better acquainted with them, than Aliens,) we will make an Extract from the Gospel of St. John, to manifest the sound Divinity in the Version edited by Junius, and then briefly suggest some Hints to Students relative to the best mode of cultivating the Knowledge of such Literature.

The GOSPEL of ST. JOHN. CHAP. I.

1. On fruman pær word. ⁊ þ word pær mid Gode. and Gode pær þ word.

2. Ðæt pær on fruman mid Gode.

3. Ealle þing pæron geporhte þurh hyne. ⁊ nan þing nær geporht butan hym Ðæt geporht pær.

4. On him pær lif. and Ðæt lif pær manna leoht.

1. In ^cforming was ^dWorth, and the Worth was ^emidst God,

1. On fruman wæs word, and the word wæs mid Gode, and God was the Worth.

and Gode wæs the word.

^a Such are the artificial Divisions of the Moderns. Warton's Eng. Poetry.

^b All the beautiful Precision of our Language is lost in their Terms. How is the definite Saxon meaning of *gehepnumnerre*, *here summonings*, that is, Lanfranc's attempt to make the Archbishop of York swear to obey the Summons of the See of Canterbury, destroyed by Gibson's obsequium. Sax. Chron. p. 175.—or Wheloc's *professionem*.

^c Forming or firming, i. e. the Creation, or Establishment of things.

^d There is no Article, consequently, it cannot with propriety be rendered Word, and what a train of thought does Worth suggest—first as Goodness or Excellence—then as Price—the Price of Man's Redemption.

^e It may be of no great consequence whether *midst* or *with*, but when we consider the Omnipotence of the Almighty, the former conveys a sublime idea.

O

2. That

2. *That was in forming midst God.*
2. Thæt wæs on frumen mid Gode.
3. *All things were wrought thorough him, and not one thing*
3. Ealle thing wæron geworhte thurh him, and nan thing
not was wrought be-out him, that wrought was.
- næs geworht butan hym, thæt geworht wæs.
4. *In him was Life, and that Life was man's Light.*
4. On him wæs Lif, and thæt Lif wæs manna Leoht.

There never was an Herefiarch, that displays not his want of common sense and judgment, when he attempts to pervert the Doctrine contained in these simple and sublime Verses, whether Arius, Crellius, or Gilbert Wakefield. The Translation of the fourth verse by the last, in his lately edited English Testament, surpasses, if possible, in absurdity, the whimsies of all his predecessors. "What was made had Life in it, and this Life was the Light of Men." That is, what was itself created, was the Cause of Creation to all created Beings, "All things were wrought thorough him." But as controversial Divinity is not our immediate Subject, we shall cease farther comment; though we take this opportunity of noticing, that in the twelfth Verse of this Chapter, where our English Translation renders, "to them gave he power to become the *Sons* of God," the Saxon Version has, "he sealed them one ^e would, that they were God's *Barns*," he *realde* him *anpeald* ꝥ hi *pæron* *Loðer* *beapn*. *Children*, not *Sons*, as the learned Dr. Vincent observed to me, that the Original is τέκνα Θεου, not υἱοι, for the term "Sons" tends to confound our ideas of the Trinity in this Chapter.—But to resume our immediate object,

The attentive reader must have observed, that the same Saxon word is frequently spelt in a different manner even in a few lines;

* Would—Power—I would, could, should, &c.

Lily's Grammar.

and that in our Rendering we have almost totally disregarded the ^f Vowels. We have certainly adopted such system, and we find it to answer far beyond our expectation; not only in the interpretation of Saxon Records, but in appropriating the Scite of Places in the celebrated Book of Domesday. We might more rationally expect classical spelling in a modern Country-fellow, than an uniform mode of writing in our Saxon Ancestors, and we must investigate the meaning of each in the same manner. To this Principle another must be subjoined, that is, the Distinction of Words that have an ^g affinity to each other in sound, or that are pronounced by the same organ, and which are often substituted for each other. The Hebrew Division of Letters will here assist us, that is, their Discrimination into those pronounced by the Tongue, Lips, Palate, Teeth, Throat, or such as are of the serpentine description, or hissing letters. We must farther note the Syllables that are lost in modern pronunciation, as *ge*, *a*, in the beginning of Words, *um*, *un*, *on*, *an*, *n*, *e* &c. at the end: and also not much regard changing an *m* into a *uu*, or *nn*, and vice versa with each respectively, a *p* into *þ*, or *p* into *þ*, when the sense demands such alteration; because the latter have frequently been mistook for each other, and the first in antient Manuscripts cannot be distinguished. The Specimens we have exhibited will teach more than any instructions we can suggest by *certain* Rules, but we strongly recommend, to the Saxon Student, the actual pronunciation of every word that appears unintelligible to him, and to place particular emphasis on the Consonants. Without pursuing some such plan, it never would have been discovered that ^h Belicolt, Bilefolt, Biliffolt, Briceode, Berifout, Beriscolt, were intended to

^f This mode is now uniformly adopted by Scholars in the Hebrew Language, and Dr. Vincent is of opinion that the Greek Consonants are principally to be relied on.

^g *d* and *t*.

^h See my Specimens and Parts of the History of South Britain.

designate.

designate the same Hundred, Byrcholt, in Kent; or that Seward, Ofward, Sewart, Sidgar, Sigar, Siret, distinguished the celebrated Earl of Northumberland; or account for Turbatus being changed into Robertus, in less than three lines.

We will now attempt to sketch out a new Mode of studying Saxon Literature. Mr. Tooke is certainly correct in stating that
 “our Ancestors were ignorant of the false Divisions and Definitions

ⁱ Diversions of Purley, p. 325.—This Author has certainly great merit, but he assumes more than he is entitled to; he says that “except in *if* and *but* (in one sense of the word) I believe all former Etymologists are against me.” Vol. I. p. 146. What does he say to *anan*, grant—*onleſſan*—*dimittere*, *hoc dimiſſo*, *eac*, *eacan*, *augere*, to add, *Skinner*—*ȝeȝ*, *ȝeta*, yet *Lye*—along—*on long*. Also, *alȝ*—*Bote*, remedy *bi-utan*, *bi-innan*—be out, be in—*Tyrwhit*—and *Hoogeveen* first suggested the idea to him, that all Particles were originally Verbs or Nouns.—There is so much extraneous matter in this publication, and he so constantly “seizes every impertinent opportunity of insult *,” talks of being “confined without the most flimsy pretence,” and has conducted himself in such an † inflammatory manner on the Hustings at Covent-garden; that I am stimulated to record a circumstance, omitted in the short-hand Report of his Trial, and which may perhaps a little ‡ embitter his life.—

“Does Mr. Tooke recollect one afternoon at the Old Bailey, about five o’clock, when the Attorney-General had retired from Court for refreshment, and the Solicitor-General was examining Evidence relative to the Proceedings of the Scotch Convention?—Does Mr. Tooke recollect rising indignantly, and wondering how such Evidence could implicate him?—Does Mr. Tooke recollect stating, that he certainly was in the Chair when the two first Resolutions of the Constitutional So-

* This applied to T. Warton, p. 90.

† Such as this to his rabble—“Gentlemen,—Ministers, last year, made you eat Bread with all the Bran in it, this year (if you will let them) they will make you eat Bread made of Bran only—Next year (if you submit to it) they will make you eat Bread made of Bran with chopt Straw in it—Gentlemen—If you will follow my advice, eat nothing but fine white Bread, made of the finest wheaten Flour, and then Ministers will take care you shall have it.”—This stated by an intelligent man, who must have known, that Government, by their Bounty on Importation, had reduced Wheat six shillings per Bushel in a few weeks. To such conduct I cannot help exclaiming,

“That man I hate, as ill as hell,

“Who this can think, and that can tell.”

‡ Whilst I have my life, it will never be embittered for any regret for the past. P. 230.

“ciety,

nitions since received." Later Writers, by adopting the Distinctions of Greek and Latin Grammarians, have confounded our Language and destroyed its simplicity. The Diversions of Purley contain much useful information to the Saxon and English Student, and supply some excellent elementary Rules. As a Scholar, the Author of "Ἑπεὰ Πτεροεντα is entitled to our respect; as a Member of Society, we pity his fiend-like mind, " whose sole intent is ever to do ill." But the * Essence of this huge work, now extending to three quarto volumes, and exceeding the German ¹ Hoogeven in bulk, on the Particles of a Language, might have been comprized in fifty pages. Indeed a *Horn-book*, constructed on a similar principle to the one hundred and thirty-fifth page of his work, would contain the substance, though not the proofs.

" ciety, approving of their conduct, were carried, but that he then retired, and Mr. Gerald occupied it?—Does Mr. Tooke recollect his artful insinuation to the Jury, " that it was natural to presume that he withdrew in disgust, because he did not approve of the subsequent Resolutions? &c. &c.—And does he recollect that when Sir John Scott was sent for into Court—that Sir J. instantly handed a paper to Mr. Woodfall?—Does he recollect that Mr. Woodfall swore that it was Mr. Tooke's hand-writing?—Does he recollect that this paper contained every Resolution passed at such Meeting, approving of the Proceedings of the Scotch Convention?—Does Mr. Tooke recollect covering his face with his hand, sinking into his chair and exclaiming, " AND A FEW COPIES UNFORTUNATELY PRINTED?"—Does Mr. Tooke recollect that he could not again lift up his head that evening?—In your own language to Mr. Windham—" Thou has fac't many things,—thou could not face this!"—Such is the acquitted guiltless innocent.—These things I heard and saw. S. H.—And whatever opinion Judges may have delivered, I ever shall be of the same sentiment with that sound Lawyer Sir John Scott, that not one iota of the Evidence of the Bishop of Gloucester, who had no connection or intercourse with Mr. Tooke twenty years preceding his Trial, could in the least exculpate this Arch-jacobin's actions, for the last five years—though old women, like pigs, " can see where other folks are blind."

* The Quotations are generally frivolous; he still reads Greek Authors, through French Translations; and when *triumphing* over the ingenious Harris, an excellent Grecian, and boasting of " Authorities in his Favour, if you please Mr. Harris's favourite Authority," (Greek) gives a flimsy French Translation of Plutarch. P. 283.

¹ Hoogeven de Græcis Particulis, 2 vols. 4to.

The reader must long have observed, that we consider the Learning of Hickes, in his Anglo-saxon Grammar misemployed; and the Introduction to Lye's Dictionary of little authority. Indeed we are convinced, that they have increased the difficulty of acquiring a knowledge of this language. For in our native tongue there are only two variations of the Substantive's Termination, into s, the mark of the concurrence of two Nouns, or the sign of the Plural Number, as ^m Land-scapes, Self-freedom's Love; which in combination is frequently omitted, for we might say Self-freedom-love, as Self-love; or an addition of en, another mode of forming the Plural, as Ox, Oxen; or a change of the Vowel, as Man, Men, in the Saxon generally um, as Man, Mannum, Manig, Monegum.

The construction of the Verb is the most simple and easy, that can be found in any language. There are only two Inflections in the active Verb, the present, and the past, *do, did*. With the assistance of these two simple Actives, and other Verbs, equally simple, yet significant, every complex variation of the Greek, or Latin, can be clearly expressed. We will exemplify this from the Latin, premising, that, originally, when an idea of the present was intended to be conveyed, our forefathers pronounced the d soft, th—ðo, when the past, hard, ðo, did—*Present* Singular, I love, or do love, thou love-in-is, or lovenest, by abbreviation lovest, and loves,—he love-do or loveth. Plural, we ⁿ love-in, ye love-in, they love-in. *Past*—I love did, by contraction lovedd, written loved. *Past and present joined*, with the assistance of the Verb *have*. I

^m Land-shape.

ⁿ In Love—from the Saxon on, the act of loving. Ben Jonson says, The persons plural were wont to be formed by adding en, (softened from in,) thus loven, sayen, complainen, but now, whatsoever is the cause, (one will be suggested) it hath quite grown out of use, and that other so generally prevailed, that I dare not presume to set this afoot again: Albeit (to tell you my opinion) I am persuaded that the lack hereof, well considered, will be found a great blemish to our Tongue. Jonson's Gram. *Since this Book is not easily found, it may be proper to note, that it begins at page 670 of his Works in Folio, though omitted in the Catalogue of Contents.*

have

have loveth, or d, that is, I have love do, or been in the act of loving, and continue to love. *The conditional past*, I had loveth, or ð, that is, I had love do, or been in love, if such a circumstance had not occurred. *The future* is expressed by the Verbs will and shall, whose various significations give our language a manifest superiority over the Greek and Latin. What is termed the commanding Mood, is expressed with peculiar energy and propriety—first, love thou, that is, þeop, love slave; then by the assistance of many Verbs, as *let* him love, *permit* him to love, *suffer* him to love, *allow* him to love, *grant* him to love, he *shall* love. In the Moods generally termed *Optative*, *Potential*, and *Subjunctive*, our language has an astonishing pre-eminence and wonderful precision. We can use God *grant*, *give*, *cause*, *permit*, &c. ° may might, ° can could, shall should, will would, owe ought, which with do as th, and did dd, and the Verbs *is*, *are*, *was*, *have*, &c. will convey more accurate ideas, than any language in the world. What has been termed the Infinitive Mood, and always been written *to love*, should be, we believe, *do love*, that is, be in the act of loving—*do hear*, to be in the act of hearing, probably written *to*, that distinction might be made betwixt the indefinite *do hear*, and when a Pronoun is prefixed, *I do hear*.—Doth is formed from *do* doubled *do-do*, a Provincialism in many counties. Love-ing, Participle from love-in, the act of love-ing. For *of loving*, *in-loving*, &c. we refer to Επεα Πτεροεντα.

In what is termed the passive Voice PRESENT, (i. e.) loveth, *I am loved by* RIGHT-WISE men, converse, *righteous men love do me*. PAST, *I was loved or lovedd by time-serving-men*, converse, “*time-serving-men did love me*.” Have, had, will, be, been, &c. will explain the rest, when the distinction betwixt *do* ð, and did dd hard,

• Originally maꝥ, past, maꝥbiðen, hence, probably, the maꝥr, those who have power, which is translated Kinsmen.

° Can—can diden, in the plural originally then coulden, l, a letter half-vowelish, according to B. Jonson.

is understood. The Past completed in some Verbs, as taken, broken, was, we think, originally, take-end, break-end; but when the pronunciation, in the time of Henry the Eighth, had softened these to taken, broken, it then became necessary, for distinction's sake, to drop the final n plural. On the same principle done, do-end, in the northern counties it is still pronounced as do-ant—spoken, spoke-end. Indeed our slow-speaking ancestors always annexed ideas, or common sense, to their words, and this nation, happily, has retained the language that can convey them; but the Norman and French innovators, “talking like popinjays,” have so apostrophized, abbreviated, or cut short our Mother Tongue, to give volubility to *their tongue*, that labour and penetration are necessary to discover the Parent-Root from the altered Form of the Off-spring. But Prudence commands me to desist, for ^a Experience has convinced

^a This Essay has been written subsequent to the publication of my Specimens and Parts of the History of South Britain; the second number of which I am prepared to send to the press instantly; but I certainly will not injure myself by the expence of engraving Maps, nor print one syllable, till I have two hundred Subscribers. No money is paid till the delivery.—And here I take leave to let a Right Honourable genealogical-loving President again *hear* from me. At the request of an antiquarian Friend, I sent my Specimens of the History of South Britain to this exalted Character. A month subsequent I called in Grosvenor-square for this Nobleman's opinion, and left my card. In a few days I was informed by the Porter, that his Lord knew no such person, but if I had any business I might signify it by a Letter. I wrote as respectful an Epistle as I could indite. I called again, and again, and again, and again. At last the Lacquey informed me, that it required no answer. Seeing no necessity why the Insulter should keep my Book, I wrote stating, that as my Specimens were of no value to him, I would thank him to return it by the Porter.—I called for it again and again. No answer. I then apprehended that the Letters might not have been delivered, for want of a proper fee. In consequence I again wrote to this Noble F. R. S. &c. stating these circumstances, and my suspicions, and gave him still an opportunity of examining it. It was then sent to Mr. Faulder, either from his Lordship or his servant, with, “Let me hear no more from him.”—Such is the patronage received from the President of a learned Body, incorporated for antient Research, the Subject of my Work—Or such the rascality of Porters.—I am not an F. S. A.—There are other literary and exalted characters of a similar description.

me,

me, that, in general, the present age is fond only of frivolous investigation.

To the Saxon Students, especially the junior Members of the University of Oxford, and those particularly from the northern side of the Trent, we take leave to suggest a few brief observations on the mode of cultivating a knowledge of the Anglo-saxon language. When thoroughly acquainted with the characters, and capable of easily discriminating betwixt þ an p, f and þ, consider ð and þ or even b as of the same power, and m, n, u, as frequently requiring reciprocal changing, from the blundering of transcribers. (After reading this Essay with some little attention,) begin with the Saxon Gospel of St. John, without any Translation, and pronounce the Consonants of each word distinctly, that is not understood. In long words attend principally to the strong Consonants r, s, n, d, or þ in the centre; for this language, like the Hebrew, has numerous prefixes and suffixes, and a person skilled in the pronunciation of that tongue, will derive great advantage from such circumstance. To the Greek Scholar we recommend the plan, on which Scapula's Lexicon is formed. First find the Root, as frm—from whence we have ^r forme, form, from, frame, firm, all implying a Beginning, then firmed, whence farmed, secured to the Tenant on such conditions—and thence farm—farmer—and its dependancies—its modern affixes, affirm, confirm, and suffixes, firmness^r, &c. Thus from the Stream with which we are acquainted we may trace the Source, and derive satisfaction from the investigation. If a corresponding word does not immediately occur to the mind, we may frequently recur with benefit to Skinner, the Glossary of Chaucer, the History of English Poetry by Warton, Spenser, Douglas, our

^r Adam our forme Father—Chaucer—Mr. Tooke's from—beginning.

^r *Nefs*, when used in Topography, implies uniformly a Curvature, from the Latin Nasus, our nose, nefs; annexed to other words it corresponds with *power*, and may be borrowed from Nest, or the Seat, or Residence of that Quality it is coupled with. We still say *Nest of Robbers*.

antient Chroniclers, black-lettered Characters, and for the last resource to Lye; but he certainly pays too much attention to Vowels. The Dictionary of Johnson may often be resorted to with great advantage, for antique or classical authorities, and the sense affixed to the word by different Writers; for though we are convinced that his Etymologies are little to be depended upon, the Work is certainly not a "disgrace to the Nation," or to the Author; his Collection from the Antients has been of great use to the man who abuses him, and his gigantic mind could never be exercised fruitlessly. He certainly has done more for Literature, for Happiness, for Virtue, than that self-consequential Snarler, the venomous "Viper of Democracy, once well-nigh strangled by our herculean Monarch, and whose hissings, and forked tongue, dare not now so openly threaten the Royal abode.

An acquaintance with the Lancashire Dialect of Mr. Collier will greatly facilitate the reading of Saxon Authors, and his short Glossary may be of some service, though his pretended distinctions of the derivations from Saxon, Belgic, Dutch, or British, are to be totally disregarded. We have selected a few Words from his Dialogue, which certainly displays original Humour, where the Consonants correspond nearly with our modern Terms, at least in Power or Sound, and which may serve to elucidate the original Derivation and confirm our system—*arnt*, Errand, *rnt*, or run it—*Beawt*, Mr. Tooke's be-out—*blend it*, be-laid it—*awlung*, all-along, Mr. Tooke's along—*staw*, stand all, all at a stand—*stangs*, sittings, whereon they sat—*donn*, do-on—*doff*, do-off—*fair-faw*,

* The petulant Mr. Tooke's assertion, who terms his own Enquiry about the Conjunctions, Prepositions, and Adverbs of our Language his "*Diversions*."—What are his grand literary pursuits, or *grand objects*, that he only occasionally *deviates* from?

" Mr. Tooke knows the metaphor, who is allied to that sibilant Race

— — — whose forked Tongues
Are steeped in Venom, as their Hearts in Gall.

Ben Jonson's Speech of Envy.

fair-fall,

fair-fall, or fair happen it unto—*faigh*, faw, connecting fight and fee—*shiar*, share, Division, modern shire—*greaddy*, go rightly—*ogreath*, on-go-right—*lack-o-day*, ah-luck-o 'th day—and we have some Consonants that convey the same Idea with every Vowel, *clack*, *cleck*, *click*, *clock*, *cluck*—the Note of our domestic Fowl to her Brood.—This mode of study will occasionally require great exertions of the mind, but it will ultimately be attended with more certainty and satisfaction.

The Scholar will soon find, that the Saxon radical words are in general monosyllables, and that most of the terms in our language, (the * richest, most copious, and definite in the universe) convey a distinct meaning, if that meaning could be discovered. Thus Spinst^r is placed in opposition to Wife. Search for the distinction—wif—wives—weave, wove, west, woof—spindle-stir, (i. e.) move—Spindst^r, modern Spinst^r—Hence we obtain information that the Matrons superintended the Loom, the Virgins the Spinning of the Wool. The word ^v Lady in a similar manner conveys an Idea,

* This the learned Michaelis allows.—See Prize Dissertation on the Influence of Opinions on Language and of Language on Opinions, p. 36.—And here I cannot omit the compliment to our nation by this general Scholar, “ the false ornaments of the French language are never more striking, than on comparing them with the beautiful Simplicity of English Writers, who seem to mind only things.”

Translation, p. 68.

^v At the fest of Estre tho Kyng send ys sonde
That heo comen alle to London, the hey men of this Londe
And the Lovedys al so god, to ys noble fest wyde
For he schulde crowne here, for the hye tyde.

Warton. Vol. I. p. 53.

MODERN ENGLISH, with nearly the same CONSONANTS in SOUND.

At the feast of Easter—the King sent his * Command
That they come all to London—the high men of this Land
And the Ladies all so good—to this noble feast hied
For he should crown there—for the high tide.

* Sent his *send*, or *sonde*, corrupted by Latin Scholars to *summoned*, s, and c, easily changed in Pronunciation—Command.

the

the beloved. The whole of our Mother Language, we entertain little doubt, will admit of similar illustration; and if a few sound Scholars, well versed in English Literature, would thus dedicate a few months attention to the cultivation of Saxon Learning, there is little question, but we should speedily obtain, not only a Grammar superior to those of Lowth, and Jonson; not only a Saxon Lexicon, on the principle of Scapula, with English Notes and Illustrations, but a Dictionary, not indeed more voluminous, though far more valuable, than that of our late respectable, learned, laborious, and conscientious Lexicographer. The literary object to which we have pledged ourselves, if supported, is of no less moment; but should we be discouraged, that study, perhaps, may be continued by us at some future period, which at present we only pretend to have cultivated subserviently to a faithful Knowledge, of our antient British History.



THE END.

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